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Fan favorite
Tim Ford's heart and hustle earn him baseball crowd's appreciation
—SEE SPORTS, 18



THE central florida FUTURE

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER SERVING UCF SINCE 1968

Thursday April 24, 2003

To date or not to date
Survey reveals that in college, most don't ask or get asked out.
—SEE LIFESTYLES, 26



THE DIFFICULT ROAD TO GRAD LIFE

What seniors have to say about post-diploma jitters and entering the business world

KRISTIN DAVIS
STAFF WRITER

In a few days, Jessica Jenness will walk across a stage and receive her diploma. Right now her life is full of graduation plans — arranging flights for her family, reserving hotel rooms and making dinner reservations.

But in a few short weeks, she will be thrown into the real world. Finding a new home, job and lifestyle.

"What worries me most is having everything fall into place," the 22-year-old said. "My apartment lease is up in July and then I will either have to move somewhere else in Orlando or move to wherever my new job is located."

Jenness has sent out almost 10 job applications but doesn't have a career lined up yet. She is one of UCF's many graduating seniors who fear what the business world has to offer them.

While Jenness hopes to work over the summer, the thought of continuing her education in graduate school remains a possibility.

"With the war going on right now, the job market is tight," said Amy Kleeman, associate director of employer relations at the Career Resource Center. "It has made it more challenging for gradu-

PLEASE SEE *Grad* ON 3

Senior Casey Ford, 22, ponders about what lies on the uncertain road ahead after graduation. The management information systems major has sent out resumes, but still has no leads.

GROWTH OF A PROGRAM

Building dreams, football teams

UCF's athletic fee increase follows a trend of universities asking students to pay for stronger sports programs

JASON IRSAY
STAFF WRITER

For years UCF has envied the loyal fan following that Florida State University and the University of Florida have — the sellout crowds at home games and the die-hard support from students and alumni.

For years UCF wished it could dazzle top student athletes from high schools the same way FSU and UF can, or lure prominent coaches with the million-dollar contracts the way they do.

For today, UCF continues to dream of the day when college sports fans will recognize UCF athletics with the same adoration or revulsion that fans pay to the Gators and Seminoles.

So UCF's Athletic Department is building — aggressively — eager to catch up to the schools they hope to emulate.

But building dreams and football teams takes lots of money. Come this fall, students will shoulder the state's third-highest student athletic fee to finance a department that UCF officials hope will develop into the kind of athletic powerhouse other universities have built.

Last November, UCF's Board of Trustees approved a

PLEASE SEE *UCF* ON 6

Athletics stepping out on its own

With a slight change in the way it does business, UCF will be free to construct new sports facilities faster

KRISTY SHONKA
STAFF WRITER

For the past two seasons UCF softball players and coaches have gotten to know what their fans look like from about the chin up.

With little available seating, fans have resorted to bringing their own chairs to games.

But because of the design of the field, fans don't get the same view of the game from their chairs as they would sitting in the bleachers. A three-foot wall obstructs the visibility of most spectators watching the game from their portable seats.

But that's all about to change.

Next season the fans and the team will see plenty of each other. When the Knights kick off their home schedule in April, their stadium should be completed. The finished facility will have all of the amenities that the baseball team has, including locker rooms, coaches' offices, a clubhouse, a press box, stands, practice field and lights — an addition to the existing complex, which has a field, dugouts, bullpens and a batting cage.

While the team will spend the first two months of the season on the road as construction is wrapping up,

PLEASE SEE *Knights* ON 12

INSIDE

Sex crimes in the shadows

UCF Victim Services says sexual assaults are increasing, although most sex crimes go unreported to police.

—NEWS, 4

State considers ban on aid

Students from nations labeled as terror havens would be hurt by proposal advancing in Tallahassee.

—NEWS, 3

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UCF FACT

The Future will be on the newsstands every Wednesday during the summer semester, starting May 7.



www.UCFuture.com

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Mr. & Miss UCF, Sak Improv Classes, Dance Marathon, VUCF Canned Food Drives, CAB Movie Knights,
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Higher education around the nation

Mixing commerce and information

When students at the University of Oklahoma log on to the campus Web site to check their e-mail or use online academic services, they learn that they can save 10 percent on the purchase of a Dell computer or get a haircut from a local barber shop for only \$9.99.

While advertisements appear on most commercial Internet sites, colleges have kept their Web sites free of ads. A few institutions, however, are experimenting to see if they can display some commercial logos and advertisements on their Web sites without annoying students and professors.

The presence of ads and commercial announcements, like sponsorship logos, on college Web sites vary widely. Oklahoma's "Current Students" page has ads for Apple and Dell computers as well as for a Las Vegas travel deal. In a product-discount deal with Apple and Microsoft, Ball State University's page for students has the companies' logos together with the text of a "Campus Agreement."

But such institutions are the exception to the norm, at least for the time being. In general, people can visit college Web pages without being subjected to the barrage of the banner and pop-up ads launched by many commercial sites. And most colleges plan to keep their Web sites ad-free.

Many college officials harbor misconceptions about running advertisements on their Web sites. Some believe that Educause, an education-technology consortium that oversees the ".edu" domain, forbids such ads. That is not true. The Internal Revenue Service, however, limits what commercial material a nonprofit entity can post on the Web without paying unrelated-business income tax on any revenue the site generates.

The larger issue for colleges is deciding when, if ever, it's appropriate to welcome advertisements or sponsorships, which are not usually tied to purchasing products on their Web sites.

Among the few institutions that put commercial material on their sites, even fewer post actual advertisements, permitting instead only the logos of companies that may offer special deals to students.

Some institutions hope to make some money through the commercial deals. So far, a few colleges have made thousands of dollars by accepting such ads, but many have found it a tough way to generate revenue.

New institution

Kaplan Inc. has announced that it plans to open a school of education in the 2004-5 academic year, and that it has hired the former chancellor of the New York City school system, Harold O. Levy, to run the new venture.

Kaplan, which already operates a law school and 46 undergraduate colleges, has made no secret of its ambitions in higher education.

Company officials said they hoped that the school of education would draw a student body made up largely of working adults and mid-career professionals, who would take most of their classes via distance education, with the "clinical" experiences taking place in schools

PLEASE SEE *Education* ON 11

Measure might ban financial aid to certain foreigners

SHELLEY MARMOR
STAFF WRITER

A proposed state measure that could eliminate all forms of financial aid for students from nations such as Iran, Iraq, Libya, Syria, Sudan and North Korea has Muslim and Arab students fuming for two reasons.

They say the bill removes money from foreign students who need it the most and unfairly targets students from Muslim and Arab nations.

The students affected by this bill are being punished for being born in Muslim countries, said sophomore Ameer Zufari, a 19-year-old Syrian-American student.

"A high percentage of the students who are trying to study here come from a very poor background," he said. "They have worked diligently their entire lives for an opportunity to study here. Are we going to tell them that after all their hard work, they can't study here no matter what? I thought this was the land of opportunity."

Sen. Dick Kravitz, R-Jacksonville, who drafted the

measure, argues that American taxpayers should not support students from countries whose governments harbor terrorists. His bill names most of the countries the U.S. government has classified as terrorist countries.

Most, but not all. Cuba has been left off the bill, and American Civil Liberties Union advocates are charging that Cuba has intentionally been excluded from the bill because Florida has such a significant Cuban population.

Larry Spalding, the ACLU's legislative lobbyist in Tallahassee, argues that the measure would have no chance of passing if Cuba were included in the bill.

If passed, the bill would go into effect July 1. The money that originally would have funded foreign students from Middle Eastern nations would be channeled back into the Bright Futures Scholarship pool to be redistributed to students who qualify for it.

Last year, 822 students from Middle Eastern countries that are now classified by the government as terrorist nations received \$308,717 in financial

Financial Assistance



MATTHEW WILT / CFF

Syrian-American student Ameer Zufari could be denied financial aid by a new law.

aid from the state.

While the ACLU has testified against the bill, Spalding concedes it likely will pass.

"The groups that are really opposing it don't have much clout, other than argument."

He added: "I'm sure [Kravitz] views this as a patriotic measure. Everyone is looking for some way to show they're being patriotic."

Zufari remains skeptical about the bill and Kravitz's intentions.

The bill could set a dangerous precedent that may be followed by other states, he said.

"If we ever want the Middle East to develop fair governments, I believe we need to start with the youth," he said. "They control the future of their countries."

Grad school an easy option for many

FROM PAGE 1

ates to find an employer who is hiring in the field they are interested in."

Kleeman says the transition from college student to full-time employee is easier for students who have done research about the job market and have previous experience in their field of study.

"Practical work experience is a critical part of finding a job after college," Kleeman said. She added that a good resumé and interview are also crucial components of the hiring process.

The key to future success in the job market, students agree, is continued education and internships.

Senior Howard Schachere, 22, interned with Walgreen's management team while working on his major in business management.

While he plans to attend graduate school at UCF in the fall, he believes his work experience will give him an advantage over potential competition in the business world.

"It's going to be tough to find a job in my major," he said. "You're going to find competition in almost any career you

How to prepare for the job market

The Career Resource Center offers various programs to help students get a start in career preparation.

Some of these programs involve conducting mock interviews with students, holding resumé workshops and helping students decide upon a major.

The center further assists students by matching them up with networks of people through a program called "Gold Connection." Employers around the area inform the Career Resource Center of job openings that students can apply for, and sometimes will arrange to interview those students on campus.

choose, though."

Schachere said his internship opened his eyes to the reality of a 40-hour week. It was tough, he said, but the pay he received more than compensated for the time he put in.

Jenness also hopes that having an internship on her resumé will impress prospective employers as she searches for jobs. She worked with meteorologists at Central Florida News 13.

"I learned so much from them," she said. "My goal is to land a career integrating statistics and meteorology, and I was able to get a taste of that through my internship."

Along with internships,

some students find that study-abroad programs have prepared them for future jobs and admittance to graduate school.

Senior Tyler Fisher, 22, who plans to further his studies at the University of Oxford after graduation, participated in several of the study-abroad programs offered at UCF.

He said his trip to Spain in 2002 was particularly useful in studying for his Spanish language minor.

"Studying abroad has equipped me with a greater appreciation for the diversity of those around me," he said. "I am now better able to assimilate foreign points of view — a necessary skill in today's real

world."

While some students decide to go on to graduate school, others wish to enter the job market as soon as possible.

Senior Casey Ford, 22, like Jenness, has decided to postpone attending graduate school in order to work full time.

"I'm over the whole college lifestyle of partying and ready to move on," he said. "I'm looking forward to making money every day instead of spending it on going to school."

Like most graduating seniors, Ford is concerned about the job market and being able to find a career that best suits his interests as a management information systems major.

But some majors limit what positions a student is able to fill after they graduate, Kleeman said.

She sees a high demand for nurses, teachers and government positions. But there is not a great demand in the information technology field since that market is currently very competitive.

"Often students spend so much time focusing on their education that they neglect to plan for the next step that comes after college is over," she said.



THE central florida
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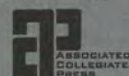
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Sex crimes rising despite the decrease in numbers

Abuse unreported to authorities, counselor says

LISA MARIE HOTTLE
STAFF WRITER

By some measurements, date rape and physical violence toward women has decreased significantly over the years.

During the past 10 years, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement reported an 11.9 percent decrease in domestic violence, and sexual offenses against women have dropped by almost 25 percent.

At UCF, rape and physical violence incidents on campus have nearly been eradicated, according to the numbers. Last year UCF Police logged just three reports of sexual abuse.

But those numbers don't take into account the 182 reports of sexual abuse and domestic violence that UCF Victim Services handled last year, up from 165 in 2001.

Both date rape and physical violence toward women are major problems at UCF and continue to climb each year, said Jamie Chiaccio, a Victim Services advocate. The incidents are simply being reported less and less frequently.

"We see a less than 20 percent reporting rate," she said. "We are expecting close to 200 students in 2003. The numbers are consistently going up."

Chiaccio said there are many reasons sexual abuse cases go unreported. Often women don't go to police because the experience is so traumatizing, they would rather put the incident behind them than press charges.

A myth that still exists is that women are more likely to be assaulted or raped by a stranger, Chiaccio said.

"It's not usually someone who is going to carjack you or jump from the bushes or a dark alley," she said. "Most of the time, it will be someone you know."

For Gena and Sofia, two UCF students who asked that their full names not be used, their attackers were the closest people in their lives, men they considered their true loves.

Often, that's what makes it so difficult for women to press charges against their attackers, Chiaccio said.

It took months for Sofia, 22, to finally take legal action against her abusive boyfriend, even though she knew he had a history of violence.

"His ex-wife put him in jail for beating her, and I bailed him out for \$750 and the title to my car," she said.

Months of verbal and physical abuse could not persuade Sofia to report her boyfriend to authorities even after he threw her into the bathtub and knocked her unconscious when she threatened to leave him.

When she tried to run away, he ripped her clothes off of her and threw her to the ground.

Although neighbors called police and the state pressed

charges against her boyfriend, Sofia did not, and continued to live with him for several months until she finally told him to leave.

When he threatened her and refused to leave, she finally decided to file a restraining order against him and took him to court.

Many women conceal the abuse by their partner because they are still in love with them or because they do not want to hurt their families by exposing the truth, Chiaccio said.

Gena, who is also 22, couldn't bear the thought of telling her parents that her boyfriend raped her after her family forbid the relationship from the beginning.

"A very small number of sexual assaults and domestic violence cases go to court because lawyers don't think the jury will be convinced of the crime."

— JAMIE CHIACCIO
Victim Services advocate

The relationship fizzled not long after, but Gena says she still considers him her first love.

"Because we were together for so long, I didn't think much of [the rape]," she said. "If we would have been together for three months, then I would have reported it."

It's common for most victims not to reveal abuse to family and friends because they fear being blamed, Chiaccio said. Often, victims sustain their love despite the violence.

"In a circle of friends, there is usually a division among groups," she said. "With family, victims believe they will say, 'I told you not to put yourself in that position.'"

While many rape and domestic violence cases go unreported, an even smaller percentage of those reported are prosecuted.

Victims rarely seek criminal prosecution, Chiaccio said. Most abuse occurs behind the walls of one's residence, so reporting the crime and seeking help is the victim's responsibility. One of the roles of UCF Victim Services is to prepare victims for the likelihood that reporting their experience to authorities won't necessarily put their attackers in jail.

"Lawyers only take cases they can win," she said. "A very small number of sexual assault and domestic violence cases go to court because lawyers don't think the jury will be convinced

of the crime."

In cases of domestic violence, Chiaccio said most students who are victims of sex abuse are more likely to seek restraining orders against their attackers because it's much easier to accomplish.

"Most victims want results immediately," she said. "They just want the abuse to stop."

When victims decide to get a restraining order, they save their abuser from arrest, jail time and a criminal record. Chiaccio said this also saves victims from the long process of court proceedings that often are traumatizing for victims who are forced to relive the crime.

Sgt. Troy Williamson, crime prevention coordinator at UCF, acknowledges that crime is going up at UCF, but attributes the increase to the escalating population of students.

"The school is growing like a weed," he said. "In orientation, we are making all the services available to students."

On a national scale, lawmakers such as Sens. Sam Brownback (R-Kan.) and Joe Biden (D-Del.) also recognize the need for improved responsiveness to victims of rape and domestic abuse. In recognition and support of National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month, the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee approved a resolution that raises awareness and encourages sexual assault prevention in the United States.

The resolution notes that more than 20 million individuals have survived sexual assault, and survivors, volunteers and professionals who work to combat sexual assault should be saluted for their work. Although the rate of sexual assaults has decreased in the last 10 years, an individual is still sexually assaulted in the United States every two minutes.

Accordingly, the resolution urges "national and community organizations, businesses in the private sector, and the media to promote, through National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month, awareness of sexual violence and strategies to decrease the incidence of sexual assault."

When a student seeks help from Victim Services for any form of sexual assault, the first course of action includes a physical examination at the Student Health Center. Victim Services provides students with legal and psychological assistance.

For victims of domestic violence, Victim Services makes arrangements with local hotels or the Harbor House, a local battered women's shelter, where women can stay while they look for a new place to live.

"Most college students don't want to go to a shelter," Chiaccio said. "We help them break a lease or move their stuff with the least amount of financial cost."

Women ages 18-29, or child-bearing age, have the highest risk for rape and domestic violence, and Chiaccio believes the American home remains one of the most unsafe places for women.

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Dear Students:

I'd like to thank you for your support the past two years. The past two SG administrations that I have headed up have worked tirelessly to provide the programs and services that you want. Among our proudest accomplishments are the creation of the Safe Ride program, Who's Who at UCF scholarship publication, Multicultural Student Center, Knight Riders, UCF Readership program, Islands of Adventure Day, and increased voter turnout by 100% during the past election. We have worked with the administration, community, and state to represent the interests of UCF students. At times we have been advocates, counselors, financiers, ambassadors, and the list goes on. But all the while we have been Golden Knights. I have shared your grief and uncertainty after 9-11. I have shared your concern about the conflict in the Middle East. I will continue to share your concerns for making UCF the premier institution in the state. I made a commitment 730 days ago to serve your interests and to provide results. I believe we have accomplished much together in the last two years. I have woken up the past 730 days serving as your President. I now will enjoy the proudest position of my life- joining you as a UCF student for my final semester. Looking towards the future, I am proud to say that the students' voice is louder than ever! Enjoy your time as a Golden Knight, as I have especially enjoyed serving your needs as Student Body President! -Marco Peña

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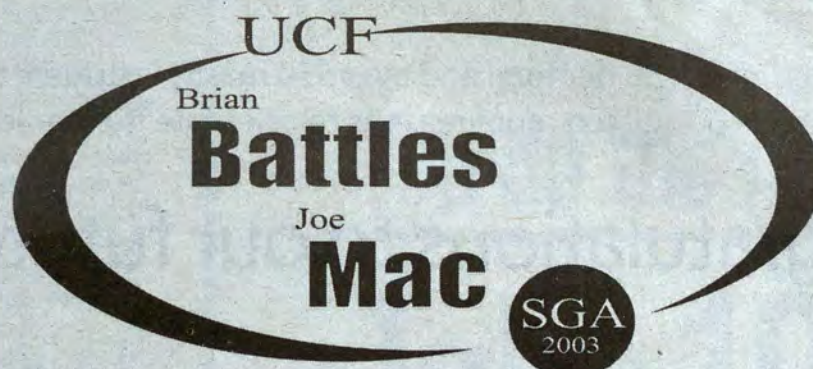


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2003



2004

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Complete information is available at the SGA website at www.sga.ucf.edu

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MAY 9, 2003 • INTERVIEWS: MAY 20 - 21, 2003

UCF strives for self-sufficient athletic program in the future

FROM PAGE 1

\$1.19 increase, raising the fee to \$11.09 per credit hour. The increase will generate an additional \$1.2 million, most of which will pay for raises and bonuses for coaches.

The hike in the fee is necessary for UCF to catch up with more established programs and to keep up with emerging programs in the state, said Athletic Director Steve Orsini.

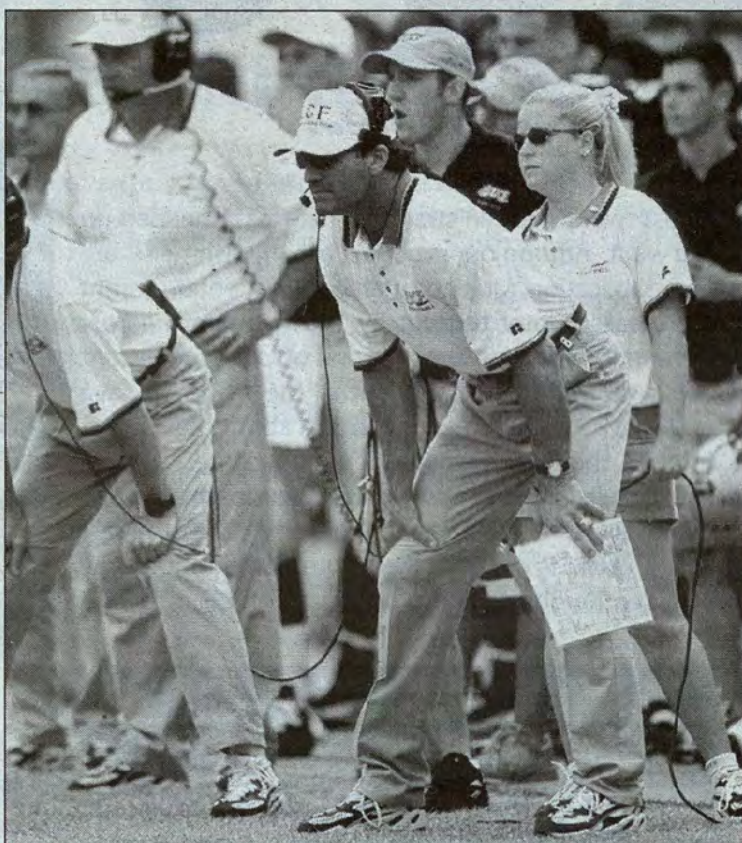
"I am a big believer that people like to follow winners," Orsini said. "This is a great step toward providing us with a chance to be successful in all our programs."

A successful athletic department, in turn, will improve UCF, Orsini said. "I call it the front porch. [A good department] hopefully will attract more students to come here."

"You could have a great home without a front porch. Great academics, great school without an athletic department at all. But if you want to have one, you might as well have an attractive one, one that would help you attract customers off the street, into the home and through the front porch."

Student Body President Marco Peña, whose administration voted in favor of the increase, said a more prestigious Athletic Department would benefit all students.

"We're paying more now to increase the value of our degrees in the future," Peña said. Improved athletics will affect the school's



CFF FILE PHOTO

Football coach Mike Kruczek, along with other UCF coaches, makes less than his peers at some smaller schools. Students will soon pay one of the state's highest athletic fees to address that gulf.

image inside and outside the state, he said.

Peña called the increase crucial, especially when other Florida universities also are scrambling to build up their athletic departments.

"If schools like the University of South Florida or Florida International University [or] Florida Atlantic University surpass us, we'll never catch up," he

said.

The majority of the funds generated by the increase, roughly \$675,000, will pay for coaching raises, while another \$243,000 will fund benefits packages.

Alan Gooch, the assistant head football coach, said UCF pays its coaches significantly less than other universities with comparable athletic departments.

"Our salaries are nothing

compared to what the other state universities get," Gooch said. "I personally think that [the raises] will have a great impact."

Orsini said UCF needs to offer its coaches more attractive salaries if the university wants to retain them.

Universities with more prestigious athletic departments and the financial backing to offer coaches more appealing salary packages have lured away several coaches from UCF in recent years, including Gene Chizik, the former defense coordinator for the football team. He left UCF to pursue a coaching career at Auburn University following the 2001 season.

"We don't want that to happen," Orsini said. "So we've beefed up the salaries we felt were below market. We're still not at market, but it was a good step in the right direction."

Better salaries will not only retain UCF's existing coaches, but would help UCF attract better coaches, Peña said.

"Our best people tend to leave if they can make more at other universities," he said.

Peña, who initially opposed the fee increase, now realizes that a top athletic program is a vital part of campus life.

"When I came into student government four years ago, they said there wouldn't be an athletic fee increase for the foreseeable future," he said. "When I looked at the reasons for why they wanted to increase it, I agreed with their reasons to get up to the standards

of a [top athletic school]."

The latest fee increase follows a larger hike four years earlier that raised the fee from \$6.60 to \$9.90 per credit hour.

That increase was approved to fund new women's athletic teams in order to comply with Title IX — a federal policy that requires an equal number of men's and women's teams in schools and universities.

"We aren't in compliance with Title IX, which is a federal law that really puts the whole university in jeopardy if we don't show signs of complying," Orsini said. "So that's why that student fee was increased, and it was restricted for gender-equity purposes. For us to provide more opportunities for women athletics."

At that time, UCF added a women's softball and rowing team.

"We have in our future plans, in the next five years, to add swimming and diving, water polo and one other women's sport which we have not decided yet," he said.

Unlike the last increase, the latest athletic fee hike will strictly benefit the athletic department. Besides the \$900,000 allocated for salaries, the Athletic Department will invest about \$50,000 for recruiting — an area, Orsini says, where UCF lags far behind the competition.

"We feel we need more money to recruit student-athletes," Orsini said. "The better student-athletes we get, the better our programs

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Recruiting, coaches need more funding

FROM PAGE 6

will be. We did a study of Division 1-A schools. There are 117 Division 1-A schools. We were ranked 105 in recruiting dollars.

"How can we expect to compete with those schools when we're at the bottom in funding?" he asked. "Recruiting is a valuable part of any athletic program."

The department has allocated \$50,000 each to facilities operations, sports marketing (targeting UCF students) and tutorial services for student athletes, and \$100,000 to pay for student athletes to take summer courses.

Florida's public universities charge a wide range of athletic fees, with an average of \$5.84 per credit hour. UCF's \$9.90 fee this year already places the university at the high end of the scale.

Currently, Florida Atlantic University, which recently began to assemble its athletic program, including building a football team, has the state's highest athletic fee, at \$11.75 per credit hour. The University of West Florida had the second-highest fee, \$11.10. The University of North Florida is next, at \$10 per credit hour.

UCF's fee increase to \$11.09 will move it into third position.

By comparison, UF and FSU both charge students far less. UF's fee is \$1.90 per credit hour, while FSU charges \$4.35 — an amount that will rise to \$4.98 next year.

The university with the lowest athletic fee, New College of Florida, charges only \$1.66 per credit hour.

UF's fee generated \$2.4 million for its sports program, about 4.9 percent of the total budgeted revenue of \$48.9 million, according to UF Assistant Athletic Director Denise Stevens.

Greg Phillips, associate athletic director at FSU, said the higher fee there next year will generate about \$4.6 million, or about 10 percent of the athletic budget.

In contrast, schools with less established sports programs tend to rely more heavily on student fees to cover their costs. USF's \$9.17 athletic fee this year generated about \$6.3 million, or 49 percent of the school's athletic budget, said Michelle Burlingame, business manager of the USF Athletic Department.

Ten million dollars of UCF's \$15 million athletic budget next year will come from student fees.

"My job is to increase that other portion, that \$5 million," Orsini said. "It will [increase] from now on because that's what I'm here for. I'm always constantly looking for more avenues [for revenue]."

"My first few years here, priority one is fund raising, fund raising, fund raising," he said. "I think the numbers will grow, and I think the main source will be fund raising."

Orsini envisions an athletic department that ultimately is self-sustaining, relying more on outside sources and less on the athletic fee. He would like to

model UCF's athletic department after UF's or FSU's.

"They already have built their sports programs to be self-sufficient," he said. "We're not there yet. Our goal is to build programs like that. Once we do, I hope this number [the student contribution] goes down."

Stevens acknowledges the main reason that UF is able to keep its student fee low is because its football program generates substantial revenue.

"As our athletic program has grown, we have looked for new and expanded sources of revenue to fund it," she said.

USF's senior associate director of athletics, Barbara Sparks-McGlinchy, said while her school has succeeded in building a football program quickly, their athletic department is considering a fee increase as well.

"This year, we asked for funds to bring the positions of second assistant for softball and volleyball to full-time status," Sparks-McGlinchy said.

Orsini wants to build UCF's Athletic Department the same way UF has, which is why he requested the fee increase.

"You need money to build a football program. You need a football program to be successful, to raise money," he said. "Historically, a university source of funds gets the program running, so that hopefully, one day, the athletic department sustains itself. That's what we're trying here."

"I would love to have a program like the University of Florida," he said. "I'd like to think we can compete with those schools."

However, students will have to pay for that improvement, Phillips said. For it to happen any other way, Phillips said, would require a significantly different structure from the ones he's familiar with.

"The only way I would know to go about it would be if the program was funded by the university, the state or some other means," he said.

Stevens said students should not have to bear the burden of building an athletic department. But, she added, "Students will benefit from the athletic program and most want it, so they should be willing to bear some of the cost."

Scott Ross, executive director of the Florida Student Association, a lobbying organization that represents the student government associations of 10 of the state's 11 public universities, isn't necessarily opposed to the higher fees that universities are imposing, but cautions them not to overburden students.

"It's a partnership between the students and the university," Ross said. "I don't think the athletic department's budget should be balanced on the backs of students."

Orsini knows he has asked much of UCF students with the fee increase, and he does not plan to ask for anymore.

"I must thank the students," he said. "This is added to already a rather hefty student fee. I recognize that, and this is awesome that they approved even more. I have no plans to ask for more."

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Degrees of freedom

Distance education programs gain popularity among working students

DANIEL E. DEPARI
STAFF WRITER

Brooke Sellers, a recent high school graduate, wakes up every morning at 7. She completes an eight-hour day of working in an attorney's office, refueling on Coca-Cola and coffee when fatigue finally begins to get the best of her. On her lunch break, she studies furiously for her classes, though she'll never attend a single one.

She's not exactly a slacker, just a full-time working adult who wouldn't have the time to pursue a degree the traditional way.

But Sellers can manage her online schedule. It's still hectic for her to work full-time and

pursue a two-year paralegal degree, but at least she has the option of studying when she wants to without having her studies conflict with her job.

Sellers isn't alone in her pursuit of an online degree. The U.S. Department of Education estimates that this year more than two million people will enroll in distance education programs.

Though interest in online degrees is rising, most students and professors agree that the approach is not for everyone.

"It is hard. I have never studied as hard as I do now," Sellers said.

Sharon Douglass, a UCF online professor, said that if designed correctly, online courses are intended to be harder than traditional courses.

"Web students must be able to follow directions that are printed, for which there are no verbal cues or body language to fall back upon," she said. "Some may never see their teacher from start to finish. Students must possess good computer skills before taking their first Web class. Teachers don't have time to walk students through how to attach material to an e-mail."

Nate Green, 23, a college missionary, is also considering an online education, mostly because he doesn't feel comfortable spending time on a typical college campus.

"I didn't get through Valencia because it just seemed like a waste of time to me," he said. "I hate busy work, which is what a lot of the teachers there give because they feel like they have to give homework or class work."

The convenience of being

able to work and go to school without having to worry about scheduling conflicts has sold Green on the idea.

"Getting an online degree sounds easy," he said. "I wouldn't have to go to class, I could do it all at home, and I could work to pay for school, instead of getting myself into a massive debt that would follow me though my life," he said.

Deborah Kirkler, an instructional designer of Course Development and Enrollment Services and online professor at UCF, said that a student's success in online learning depends largely on their personality. The most important characteristic a person must have is good time-management skills.

"Most of those pursuing online degrees are going for their master's degree," she said. "Most work full-time jobs and some are raising families. They tell me the only time they have to study is at 11 or 12 at night. So it is good solution for them."

Douglass said that online learners must be able to operate through self-motivation. Students must be able to learn without interaction with others.

Online degrees are often self-paced, which is a benefit to students such as Sellers, who is in a hurry to get a degree.

Like traditional classes, online courses require students to make sacrifices as well.

"I have to sacrifice spending time with my family and friends because I am always studying or working," Sellers said. "I don't get to have free time like I used to."

Michael Rabby, an associate professor of communications, said there are legitimate reasons to offer online classes, but he cautions students about the drawbacks.

"I think it's good for students to have at least some exposure [to online learning] during the course of their tenure at the university," he said.

"One of my older students had a newborn baby," he said. "That's a great way for her to take a class. But a lot of other people would forget about the class. They would be busy doing stuff, then they would not come to the class for a few weeks and then they would get zeros. It takes a certain kind of student to do an online class."

UCF offers several undergraduate and graduate online degrees in areas such as health services administration, nursing, liberal studies, criminal justice and forensic science.

—WENDY WONG-KEN & SHEYLA NIEVES
CONTRIBUTED TO THIS REPORT



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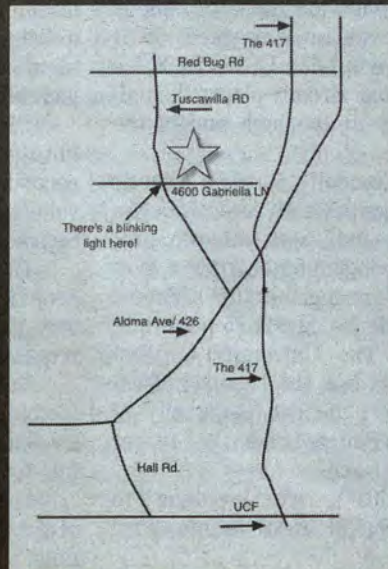
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BSC 4930/6936 Experimental Techniques for Marine Fish (3 credit lecture and 1 credit lab) - Overview of experimental techniques for marine fish in captivity, including their chemical and physical requirements, reproduction, development, nutrition, health, and energetics.

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BSC 4930/6936 Global Change and the Marine Environment (3 credit lecture) - Overview of natural and anthropogenic global changes and their impacts on marine organisms and marine ecosystems.

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Academic freedom alive and well — on some campuses

GENO MEHALIK
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In the sensitive political atmosphere that followed the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, and continued during the war against Iraq, some professors around the country have found themselves in hot water for statements and stances that offend some people.

Columbia University assistant professor Nicholas De Genova sparked headlines last month when, during a teach-in, he called for "a million Mogadishus," referring to the 1993 Battle of Mogadishu, in which 18 U.S. soldiers died in an ambush. Columbia's president and faculty widely denounced De Genova's comments but defended his right to make them.

Last year, Sami Al-Arian, a University of South Florida computer engineering professor, lost his job because of his inflammatory comments about the Israeli-Palestinian situation and his alleged support of terrorist activities in Palestine.

For decades, university professors have enjoyed the right to say what they want, protected by the "1940 Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure," developed by the American Association of University Professors.

Whether or not they feel pressure to avoid controversial topics, professors at UCF say they have the freedom to discuss them.

Yet senior Ragin Floyd, 21, an elementary education major, said professors should not try to persuade students with their war views — even though in some courses, he concedes talk of war is necessary.

"In classes like American government and history, it's expected," Floyd said.

Debby Mitchell, an associate professor in the College of Education, agrees that professors should not push their political views.

However, Mitchell says war should be discussed when relevant to the curriculum. "It affects us," she said.

To Floyd's chagrin, at least one of her professors has lectured on the war. Floyd said one of her classes focused on how to field questions about global issues from elementary school students.

"It's hard because you have to remain unbiased," Floyd said. "You can't push your opinions on these young children. You have to be neutral."

Schools have felt the wrath of censorship throughout the 20th century, on topics as widespread as human sexuality to evolution. But since the war in Iraq began, educators in every education level nationwide have found themselves under increased scrutiny.

High schools in Albuquerque, N.M., suspended two teachers and a guidance counselor last month for refusing to remove anti-war posters from their classrooms.

In mid-March, a middle-school principal in Covington, Ga., barred a teacher from expressing anti-war views or posting a peace poster in class.

Also, administrators at an Ocala high school warned teachers not to express their opinions during classes regarding the war, sparking a controversy

among faculty members who felt their civil liberties were endangered.

Floyd said talking about controversial topics in elementary school is difficult. "You have to remember that the parents of these students might think differently than their children's teachers," Floyd said. "You're almighty to these students."

That is not necessarily the case in colleges, though.

Senior Lyn Cherowbrier, 22, said none of her professors have lectured on the war, but if they chose to, she would not be scared to speak her mind.

Cherowbrier said everyone is allowed to protest. "I like debate," Cherowbrier said. "A professor who spoke their mind would not intimidate me. I'm a person with a view just as they are a person with a view. We are on equal terms."

Mitchell said not all students feel confident enough to challenge a professor's view.

"If I voice my opinion, a lot of people are going to close down because they are afraid to voice their own," Mitchell explained.

Floyd said she would stay quiet if a professor or another student spoke from a perspective different than her own.

"I probably wouldn't say anything," she said. "I can listen to other viewpoints and not be offended."

Mitchell emphasized that open discussion benefits everyone. "Viewpoints need to be brought out," she said. "There are no repercussions for a classroom discussion. It is a healthy dialogue."

Cherowbrier said that as a student she views a good professor as one who presents both sides of an issue, allowing students to form their own opinions. Mitchell agrees.

"I try to encourage freedom of speech in my classroom," Mitchell said. As an expert on effective teaching, Mitchell knows there are a number of ways to approach controversial topics. She tries to keep the discussions balanced. "Bring out all sides," she said.

Mitchell also said professors could assign students certain viewpoints and practice role-playing.

"Eliminate the emotional and

you're left with the factual information," she said.

"Teachers and entertainers have very different roles," she added. "It's like comparing apples to oranges. Teachers have more responsibility."

Associate English professor Jerome Donnelly thinks professors have not used that responsibility effectively.

Donnelly, an expert on censorship, said he does not think that direct censorship has become an issue in schools since the beginning of the war. Rather, Donnelly fears a more indirect form of censorship.

"Indirect pressure and intimidation results in people not being willing to express their views," Donnelly said.

Donnelly believes professors are simply not asking students the right questions.

Donnelly said, for example, it is customary for him to ask his class: "When did the Japanese bomb Pearl Harbor?"

The class always answers quickly and in perfect unison, he said: Dec. 7, 1941. His next ques-

tion: "Why did the Japanese bomb Pearl Harbor?" Donnelly said the class then typically falls silent.

"Which is more important?" Donnelly asks.

Donnelly said everyone agrees that the latter is more important.

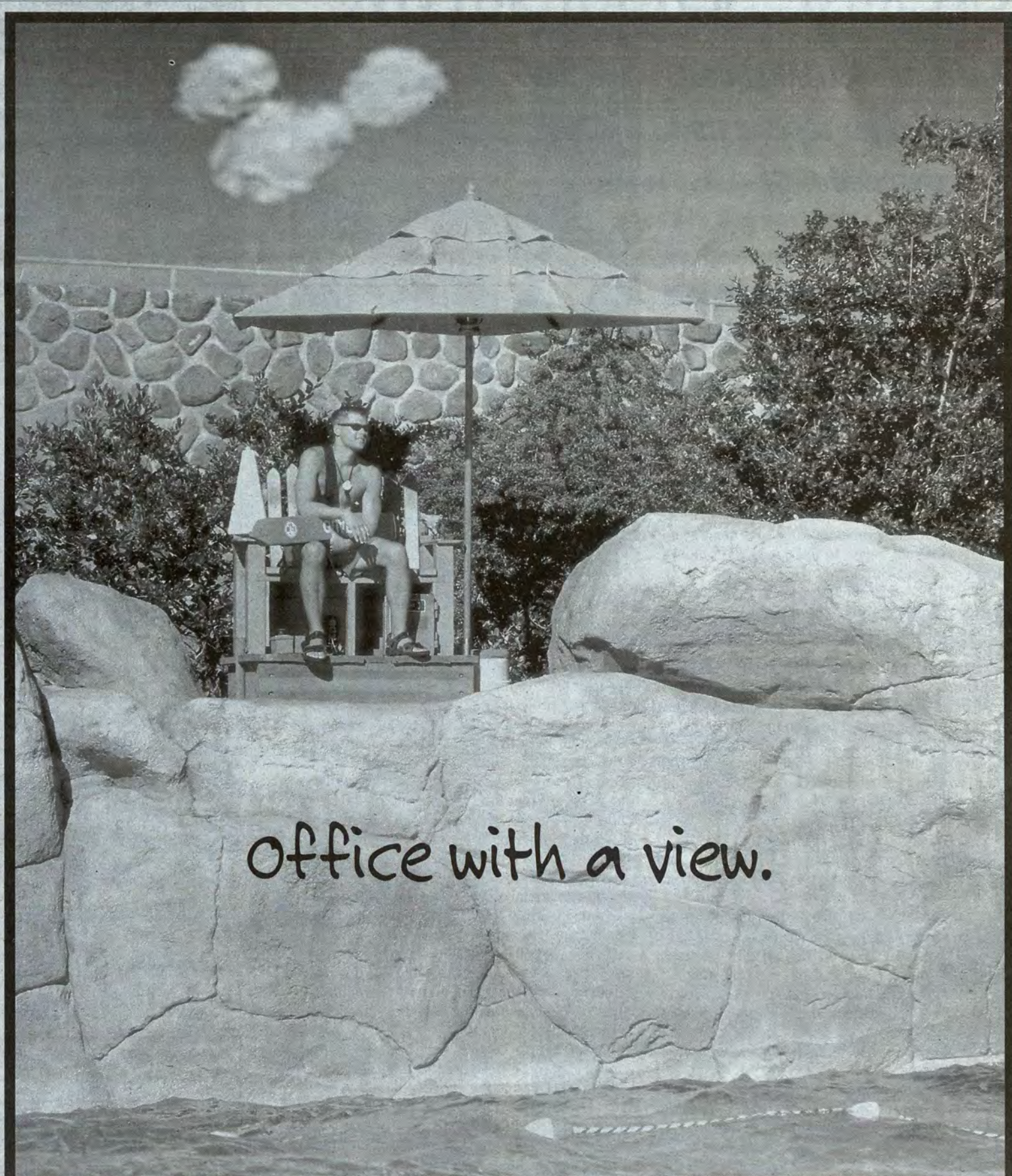
"The point is that too many schools — and colleges for that matter — teach habits of thought that focus on the trivial," Donnelly said.

He said it is more important for students to understand the principles of cause and effect.

Otherwise, "censorship becomes relatively unimportant, since the citizenry has been [indoctrinated] to think in terms of lists of dates, or names, or especially in terms of personalities," Donnelly explained.

As for UCF's policies toward academic freedom, Mitchell said she has received no advising from UCF administration to curtail her curriculum. Mitchell said if she were asked not to speak about the war, she would have to weigh the rationale behind that request.

"Faculty have a lot of leeway," she said.



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WENDY WONG-KEN / CFF

Tricycles at rest outside of the Creative School for Children, where administrators struggled with budget woes until an SGA bailout.

SGA allocation will help Creative School survive

One-time \$50,000 boost intended for repairs and an expanded staff

BEN BAIRD
STAFF WRITER

As smiling 5-year-olds painted eggs for an Easter egg hunt and toddlers gathered for story time at the Creative School for Children last week, they were unaware of the financial difficulties their school is enduring and a \$50,000 gift from the Student Government Association that will keep the facility afloat.

"There was a deficit that was roughly \$42,000," said Marcus Gould, chairman of the Activity and Service Fee Committee of the SGA Senate, which recently voted to include the expense in SGA's 2003-04 budget. "We gave them enough money to cover the debt."

The financial problems came to a head when the school's roof began to leak, said the school's director, Dolores Burghard.

"We'll be moving along and find we need a \$25,000 repair on a roof, and that has to come out of the operations budget, and all of a sudden we're in the hole," she said.

The school has confronted a number of unanticipated expenses, forcing it to forgo even the most basic office staff, such as a secretary and a financial officer, in order to keep the doors open.

The difficulties can be traced to a change in university policy. When the school opened in 1976, the university agreed not to charge the school an overhead assessment fee. That fee covers the cost of services such as payroll, purchasing, and finance and accounting.

However, four years ago, UCF decided the school would have to start paying that fee based on a sliding scale that would increase each year.

"It went to about \$23,000 or \$25,000-plus at the same time we put in for raises in our faculty wages," Burghard said. "So, we had two big things happen in one year, and that put us in the hole."

Burghard said the faculty wage increase was unavoidable, as teachers at the Creative School with 15 to 20 years experience were making the same if not less than teachers elsewhere who were just starting out.

In previous years the school has received about \$10,000 annually from SGA. "They've received money for everything from a water purification system to a jungle gym," Gould said.

SGA Senate Pro Tempore Kevin Ortiz said the school asked for help when the roof needed repair and the school's administrators realized that funds were not available. Ortiz said that it was this, among other things, that caused SGA to approve the increase in funding to \$50,000 for next year.

"We are sort of like their baby; it's because of student government that we got started,"



WENDY WONG-KEN / CFF

A student in the accelerated 3- and 4-year-old class at play.

Burghard said. "They've been very supportive through the years, but this is the first time in probably around 23 years they gave us money for operations, plus projects."

The school was created through a student government initiative to provide a place for married UCF students to take their children. Upon its founding, the school received substantial funding from SGA, but that funding was cut back once the school was thought to be fiscally sound.

With the money from SGA, the school will be able to not only repair the roof but also to hire staff. The school plans to add a full-time secretary and a part-time financial officer. The school also wants a full-time substitute teacher, but funds may not be available for that expense.

While the \$50,000 boost to the school is a "one-time thing," SGA leaders are willing to help again in the future if the need arises. "I wouldn't be opposed to more funding for the school," said Ortiz.

According to Gould, the question of future funding cannot be answered at this time, as that decision will be up to the budget committee in next year's senate.

Funding for the school currently comes from several sources. The largest source of income is a \$0.22-per-credit-hour fee paid by all students. Burghard said UCF students could use the school to their benefit even if they do not have children enrolled.

"The school is open to every student on this campus that would like to come for observation,

PLEASE SEE SGA ON 12

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Education City seeks American universities based on ranking in U.S. News

FROM PAGE 3

themselves.

Many other institutions — some nonprofit, others run by such companies as Sylvan Learning Systems and Education Management's Argosy University — also offer teacher-education programs via distance education.

Like Kaplan, they view teacher education as a growth field: The U.S. Department of Education has estimated that the country will need an additional 2.5 million teachers by 2010.

The curriculum and degree offerings that Kaplan's school would offer are still being developed, but Levy said the goal was to create "a full-service school of education" that could eventually offer associate, bachelor's, and master's degrees.

It might also offer doctorates and management degrees. The company declined to predict enrollment or tuition figures.

Jonathan Grayer, Kaplan's chairman and chief executive officer, said that plans for the school were still being formed, and that

the company had hired Mr. Levy with the understanding that he would help complete them.

Levy will be a senior vice president of Kaplan. Before serving as New York's chancellor of schools, from 2000 through mid-2002, he had held various legal posts with a number of financial companies. He also served on the New York State Board of Regents.

In the heart of Qatar

Qataris soon might get the chance to become Aggies if Texas A&M University gets state approval this week to open a branch campus in the Middle Eastern country.

Texas A&M wants to join an unusual venture, known as Education City, in Doha, the capital of Qatar. The oil-rich nation has been home to the U.S. military's Central Command during the war with Iraq.

Qatar's rulers recruited Texas A&M to provide the engineering school for Education City, a high-profile project in a Muslim country that some say is determined to become more democrat-

ic and modern.

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board members will vote Thursday on Texas A&M's proposal, which won't cost the state or the university a cent. The private, nonprofit Qatar Foundation will foot the bill with a 10-year, multimillion-dollar contract that covers faculty pay, housing and a management fee for the university. The final amount is being negotiated.

State officials say the proposal probably will pass, but they predict some interesting discussion about the concept of plunking down a branch of Texas A&M — home to the Bush Presidential Library — in the Middle East.

Texas A&M ran a two-year program in Japan from 1989-1995. It shut down the program when the Japanese economy crashed and the mayor who supported the idea lost re-election. The Japanese city paid for the branch.

The Qatar program is rare, partly because of its location and because the universities are offering full degree programs.

State officials are concerned about the timing because the hostilities in Iraq are not over, said Don Brown, the Texas Higher Education Commissioner.

But Texas A&M officials have done a lot to show that they will protect professors, said Adair Margo, a coordinating board member. Qatar is at least 700 miles from the Iraqi border.

Texas A&M is making sure its agreement with Qatar addresses safety. The foundation has agreed to reimburse the university for evacuation expenses if the school believes it's not safe for its faculty to remain there.

The engineering school in Qatar would start with about 50 students and then grow to about 400. Texas A&M would pick four professors for the first school year, then eventually expand to 60.

Texas A&M would join other well-known universities in Education City, a complex of buildings on 2,400 acres "sprouting in the middle of the desert," Prior said.


Virginia Commonwealth

University began running a school of the arts in Qatar in 1998. Last fall, Cornell University opened the medical school, and the country's ruler is negotiating with Georgetown and Carnegie Mellon. Qatar wants Georgetown to run a foreign-service and diplomacy school and Carnegie Mellon a business school.

The Qatar Foundation signed a 10-year, \$750 million contract with Cornell for the medical school and a 10-year, \$50 million contract with Virginia Commonwealth for its program. The latter deal has since been increased to about \$100 million.


Qatar's ruler, Sheik Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, and his wife specifically sought programs ranked highly in U.S. News & World Report's annual college guide.

Thomas Blasingame, a Texas A&M associate professor of petroleum engineering, said it shouldn't be hard to persuade professors to go to Qatar, which has half of the largest gas field in the world and the largest liquefied natural gas facility.



Paleontologist Paul Sereno has encountered some of the weirdest creatures that ever walked the earth. Yet some of the scariest things he's discovered aren't likely to become extinct anytime soon. Sad to say, mutual fund management fees will probably outlast us all. That's why Dr. Sereno **was afraid of getting eaten alive.** So he turned to a company famous for keeping the costs down. That meant more money for him and less for the monsters.

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Knights want to follow in Gators' footsteps

FROM PAGE 1

Coach Renee Luers-Gillispie and her team don't mind waiting for a facility that will be complete two years ahead of schedule.

"They're pretty pumped about having their own locker rooms and being able to actually find their coaches," Luers-Gillispie said about her players. "I'm thrilled to have a place to put our fans."

The softball stadium's early completion will be one of several projects the UCF Athletic Department hopes to begin soon after it makes the transition to a direct-support organization July 1. As a direct-support organization, the UCF Athletic Association will operate as a non-profit corporation. UCF President John Hitt will be the chairman of the association's board of directors and Athletic Director Steve Orsini will double as executive director of the association.

The change will allow the athletic association to operate like a private business, meaning it can borrow and invest money, pay its own bills and get bids on construction projects. And it won't have to deal with all the state rules and regulations it has to go through now.

"We now have some flexibility within the NCAA rules to more customize our business practices to what college athletics is doing on a national basis," Orsini said. "So, therefore, we can be more competitive."

Most of the changes will occur within the association and won't be apparent to outsiders. But there will be some changes UCF students and fans will notice, including the completion of the softball complex.

Those changes will be possible because the association will now be able to borrow money. Orsini said he already has two banks that have verbally agreed to loan the association the \$7 million he needs for gender-equity projects. Along with the softball complex, that money will go toward resurfacing the track for the women's track and field team, a boathouse for the women's rowing team and an aquatic center for the soon-to-be added women's swimming program.

Orsini said the association has to set aside \$250,000 each year for gender-equity projects

because of Title IX, the federal mandate that requires equality in men's and women's sports programs. If it doesn't, the state can take away that money.

"I took that to the bank and said, 'Look, don't believe me that I'm going to give annual debt service to pay back a loan ... the state says that if I don't do that, I lose the money and I can't afford to lose that money. I need every dime I can get,'" Orsini said.

The major change the athletic association faces comes with running its day-to-day operations. The university will no longer handle all of the accounting for athletics, which means the business office has to take on a lot of new tasks.

Orsini said he will hire a controller to make sure the association maintains its financial records accurately, but that will be the only new hire related to the transformation. Current business office employees will be trained to handle new responsibilities, including learning a new computer accounting system, cutting checks and maintaining the athletic association's financial records — all duties the university handled before.

Preparations for the transformation began shortly after the Board of Trustees gave its approval in January, giving the association about six months before its target date of July 1. The timetable is a bit aggressive, but it is timed with the start of UCF's new fiscal year.

Mike Bazemore, assistant athletic director for business and finance, said that he and the rest of the Athletic Department have spent the past few months doing research. They talked to the UCF Foundation, also a direct-support organization, about how it relates to the university. They also have been in contact with different financial units on campus to make sure they are addressing everything they need to, such as financial aid for student athletes.

Recently UCF General Counsel Scott Cole traveled with Orsini and other members of the Athletic Department to the University of Florida — the only Florida school with an athletic association operating as a direct-support organization. Cole, who came to UCF from UF last February, said they were

impressed with UF's operations and probably will model some things after the Gators.

Cole is largely responsible for UCF's decision to branch the athletic department. Shortly after arriving at UCF, Cole mentioned to Hitt how well he thought UF's athletic association ran and that it might work here.

Cole said UF's association ran efficiently and was able to accomplish projects quicker than other programs because it could borrow money, rather than work through all the state rules and regulations.

Hitt liked the idea and brought it to Orsini shortly after he became athletic director last July. It was a perfect fit for Orsini, who had spent the previous eight years as chief financial officer of Georgia Tech's and Navy's athletic associations. Both Navy and Georgia Tech have independent athletic associations.

Orsini said he had planned to ask Hitt about making the change at UCF, but didn't get the chance before the president asked him.

"I was very, very happy that day, I must admit," Orsini said.

To Orsini, the biggest advantage of incorporating the Athletic Department will be the flexibility that comes with running a business that is separate from the state.

"An athletic department in a state organization is kind of like fitting a square peg in a round hole," Orsini said.

But he was quick to add that the association is not running off on its own.

"It's simply a tool, and like any tool, it can either help you do your job, which is what I definitely envision it doing, or it can hurt you if you don't conduct your business properly," Orsini said. "Any thought of being independent, you're going to get in trouble. First by the university, then the NCAA is going to slap you because you don't have institutional control. You can't go off and do your own thing."

Orsini said the association will mirror the university's business policies except when those policies keep athletics from being competitive. That's when Orsini will use the flexibility given to him as a direct-support organization. But ultimately Orsini and the athletic association will always have to answer to Hitt — one of the guidelines mandated by both the NCAA and UCF.

"It's really the best of both worlds," Cole said. "You get some freedom to operate more like a business, but you also have the assurance of knowing it won't go off and do something that's not consistent with the university."

Cole said the only disadvantage he could see with the new setup is if the athletic association became too independent, but he doesn't think that will happen at UCF. The association's governing documents made sure the president has control over the corporation. Cole added that the board of directors is set up so that UCF's president can remove any members who aren't acting consistently with university policy.

Cole and Orsini think that incorporating the Athletic Department will make UCF more competitive on the national level, which only helps the university.

"It makes the university really visible," Cole said. "Any time you get your name out there, more students know about you, they're interested in coming. In the long run it helps the academic programs."

While UF's athletic association has about a 30-year head start on UCF's, Orsini thinks the move should help UCF follow in the Gators' footsteps.

"We feel if we put this plan together, it's a step in that direction," he said. "How far it will take us, who knows?"

Right now Orsini is concentrating on the preparations his department has to make by July 1. Hitt is in the process of naming the board of directors, and the board will have its first meeting in June. No one expects this to be an easy transition, and everything doesn't have to be exactly in place by July 1. Everything just has to be moving in the right direction.

"It won't be completely smooth. We know that," said Bazemore, whose business office will be the most affected by the change. "We're just trying to make it as smooth as possible, so we have as few bumps as possible."

Most likely no one outside the athletic association will notice any bumps. All outsiders will notice is a finished softball complex next April.



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SGA may offer school support in the future

FROM PAGE 10

internships, field experiences, and research — that kind of thing. We also are open to graduate students for research," Burghard said.

Other funding for the school comes from enrollment fees charged to the parents of the children. The enrollment fees will have to increase, says Burghard, due to the extreme financial situation.

However, Burghard stresses that the school is not in dire straits.

"I don't want it to look gloom, gloom, gloomy," Burg-

hard said. "We have some very dedicated people, and a national reputation ... and the children who go through our program accomplish great things."

Burghard called the Creative School the "Rolls Royce" of its kind. Like a fine car, Burghard said the Creative School occasionally needs repairs and tune-ups.

"We know that we're influencing children in a positive way," Burghard said. "This year, we may break even and be OK, but we've done it with sacrifice. I think that student government is giving us the boost we need to get back on track."

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Opinions

Thursday April 24, 2003

OUR STANCE:

Athletic fee increase must create results

When the per-credit-hour athletic fee rises next fall by \$1.19, to \$11.09, UCF students will be paying more than students at all but two of the state's public universities. By comparison, students at the University of Florida pay \$1.09 per credit hour; at Florida State University, the fee next fall will be \$4.98 per credit hour.

Of course, UCF's athletic department has far less experience, money or success than either of the big two Florida universities. UF and FSU built their programs over time, while UCF and the rest of the state's public universities have to play catch-up if they want to level the playing field. Like other schools that hope to enhance their athletic programs, UCF is placing the burden for that expense on students.

New College of Florida, on the other hand, has taken a different approach toward athletics. NCF students paid only \$1.66 per credit hour this year. That nominal fee is in line with the small school's lack of ambition regarding intercollegiate athletics.

UCF administrators want to make athletics a focus. A strong athletic program can positively impact all levels of the university, including academics and research funding, by increasing clout and recognition of the

university.

Athletic Director Steve Orsini and UCF's Board of Trustees are asking students to make a significant sacrifice for the future success of UCF athletics.

Because the Board of Trustees voted for the latest fee increase, the trustees have to understand the expectations that will accompany the latest hike. Students want a successful athletic program, particularly a successful football team.

Students at UCF have to sacrifice much more than their peers at more successful athletic schools. They would rather have that money to spend at their own discretion. For as much as they are expected to contribute to the athletic department, students deserve results. They want winners.

If UCF's sports program can reach the level of UF or FSU someday, the students' investment in the program will pay off. The fear in pursuing a big-time athletic program, of course, is that the university could lose sight of its main focus, which should always remain providing a quality education.

As long as UCF can maintain its academic integrity, the university should responsibly strive to improve the athletic department. If it can succeed, all UCF students will benefit.

OUR STANCE:

Cutting aid to Middle East students misguided

A bill making its way through the Florida Legislature that would ban financial aid to students from Middle Eastern nations could have serious consequences.

While the senator who sponsored the bill, Dick Kravitz, a Republican from Jacksonville, may have had good intentions and may have wanted to appear patriotic, the bill unfairly discriminates against the very people who need help the most.

Kravitz may think that he is fighting terrorism by trying to deny aid to these students, whose countries have been broadly labeled as terrorist nations by the U.S. government. But in reality, he is simply stereotyping a very large group of people. Kravitz's bill does not fight terrorism. If anything, it spurs terrorism.

If the bill passes, those students would have less of an opportunity to escape the conditions of those nations. By denying them aid, the bill may deny these students the opportunity to pursue a higher education at all.

In turn, the bill fosters mistrust among Floridians of people from these countries. Rather than building bridges between us, the bill builds walls. It denies students from these countries the chance to experience the

freedom and opportunities that make this country great.

If these students cannot experience the United States, they cannot become the messengers that we need them to become. Students represent the greatest hope for reforming those countries from the inside out.

We need these students to experience the United States in all its glory. These students could help change public opinion in their home countries, and could perhaps foster democracy in their nations.

However, by stereotyping college students from these nations as threats, the bill reinforces the impression that some people of these nations already have of the United States as a judgmental, imperialist power. It also betrays the American Dream. For centuries, immigrants have traveled to this country to better themselves. They saw America as the land of opportunity. Foreign students, from peaceful and tumultuous nations alike, still see America that way. They come here to improve their lives, and perhaps their families' lives.

While these students, as much as any, need help to pay for college, the bill denies them the helping hand they need to improve themselves, and possibly their countries.



Letters to the Editor

Views expressed here are not necessarily those of *The Future*

Setting the record straight

I am extremely upset with the story, "Seeing the light in the tunnel of oppression," by Geno Mehalik published April 17, mostly because my friend, Kat Setzer, and I were misquoted and taken out of context. This letter is to set the record straight.

Though I did state that the tunnel oversimplified situations, I did not say they were trite clichés. In fact, it was Kat who even brought up the clichés, but did not use the redundant phrase "trite clichés."

Furthermore, the two of us were presented as ignorant morons, especially by the follow up quote where by Tianna Sims stated, "It does happen." It implies that neither of us believes oppression exists.

The actual context of the quote was her clarifying a scene that I had objected to as being unrealistic.

I know my world view is naive, but because I think a piece of performance art can never capture the true scopes of oppression does not mean I do not know bigotry and I do not appreciate having statements I made turned into fuel for diatribes disguised as a news stories.

If the journalists of *The Future* honestly believe they are going to find employment in a real journalistic environment by printing constant inaccuracies and editorializing, they are in for a rude awakening upon graduation.

—REBECCA RICHARDS

The Future encourages comments from readers. Letters to the editor should not exceed 300 words and must include full name and phone number. We may edit for length, grammar, style and label. Send letters to editors@UCFuture.com, submit them online at www.UCFuture.com or fax them to 407-447-4556. Questions? Call 407-447-4555.



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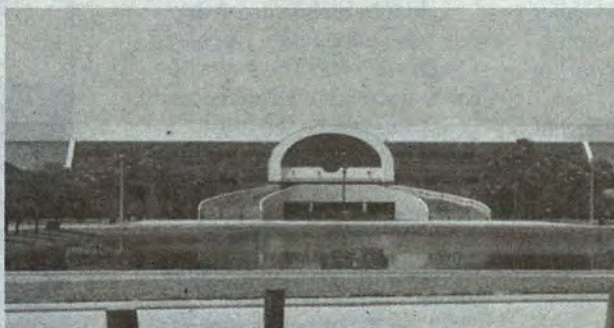
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Mr. Personality disorder

Masking a bad reality show with an even worse concept

MIKE RIEGEL
STAFF WRITER

I normally steer clear of reality television, which means that lately, I've been steering clear of television altogether.

For better or worse (usually for worse), the magical-moving-picture box is being dominated by shows with dim-witted construction workers that are strapped for cash and can't put a sentence together — but enough about Lorenzo Lamas and Stephen Baldwin. What I would like to address is the latest disaster that I happened upon, a show by the name of "Mr. Personality."

The premise for this show is simple — a woman chooses, through a series of dates and encounters, which of the 10 male suitors she intends to spend the rest of her life with. The only catch is that all of the men are wearing colored masks that cover their faces, and she must judge them on personality alone.

I'm guessing the producers of the show didn't reverse the roles of the sexes and have a man choose from 10 women because it's a proven fact of nature that men already choose their partner based entirely on personality, not looks. Pamela Anderson may have a hideous hang nail, but I would never know it because I'm looking at her heart ... or whatever's in that general vicinity.

That's right — this show will finally prove that women think certain men are attractive, and sometimes choose to date them because they're attractive. How superficial.

And to think that all this time I thought women were in search of a guy who was funny, nice to people and animals, smart, environmentally conscious and sensitive. Well, Quasimodo might have a house full of animals, recycle his aluminum cans and have more comedic talent than Jerry Seinfeld, but he won't be able to overcome his hideous appearance.

Unless he's on "Mr. Personality!"

Honestly, I would like to take a moment and applaud this show's actual elements of reality. Most of these so-called reality shows have absolutely nothing to do with any part of real life.

But this show is different. I can tell you from personal experience that when my friends and I encounter a pretty young lady, we immediately put on different-colored masks, introduce ourselves and promise to propose marriage if she decides to date any one of us.

After we've all tried to persuade her that each of us is in fact her true soul mate, we exchange phone numbers and anxiously await her phone call.

So maybe the show is not so realistic. In fact, it's quite possibly the dumbest thing I've

heard since someone reported Kelly Clarkson is now more culturally significant than the Macarena.

Going on a show like "Mr. Personality" to find true love is like going on the "Family Feud" to decide whether or not to give your sister a bone marrow transplant.

"Sorry, sis, but you cost us the game when you said baseball players like to chew on pumpkin seeds. If you'd said 'sunflower seeds,' then you wouldn't have to suffer from that cancer anymore."

As far as I'm concerned, this show has already missed the only chance it had to be interesting. If the audience had no idea what the guys looked like, then maybe it would retain the slightest bit of intrigue, but the viewers have already seen their faces.

Add to that the show's refusal to cast Steve Buscemi as Mr. Pink, and this show is destined to be a bomb.

Just to make sure everyone feels adequately ripped-off, I hope she picks the guy with the worst personality, because he'll probably be the most attractive.

Of course it will be like carrying on a conversation with a wall when she does choose him, but a very visually appealing wall, nonetheless. Most good-looking people don't need a personality anyway because they're just too busy being sexy or contemplating how difficult it is to be a model.

Oh, and did I forget to mention that Monica Lewinsky is the host? That makes perfect sense, because no one knows more about true love than her.

Death to spam

Dual addresses only sure way to keep inbox clear

LENORE SKENAZY
NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

Me, three years ago: Why on Earth do I need e-mail?

Me, three months ago: Oh, goody — got some e-mail!

Me, three minutes ago: Ugh. More e-mail.

Delete, delete, delete.

If you live a wired life at work or home, chances are you have experienced a similar e-mail evolution. What was once a gimmick for geeks quickly became an incredible convenience and then, just as quickly, a new source of irritation. The reason?

Too many ads. If this keeps up, e-mail may soon go the way of the ringing phone at dinnertime: snarled at and unanswered.

The problem is that unscrupulous marketers are flooding the world's inboxes with offers of everything stupid, suspicious or sick. When I log on, my inbox looks like the National Enquirer's classifieds. Do I want a new diet? Boyfriend? Bust? Click here!

Collectively, the stuff is

called spam. And because sending a million spams is even cheaper than taking out one measly classified — in fact, it's practically free — the practice is exploding exponentially.

Already, spam accounts for about 50 percent of all e-mail — up from just 8 percent in 2001. Back in December, America Online boasted that it had blocked half a billion spams from its members in one day.

Now, it routinely blocks a billion. And still, an annoying number get through. On Tuesday, AOL announced yet another lawsuit against spammers — its 100th — proof of the difficulty of spam slamming.

Just as Americans eventually learned to slam the door on Fuller Brush salesmen, toss out junk mail and mute commercials, they will parry this assault as well. It's just a question of how.

It could be that legislation will be passed to outlaw spam. Or technology may come along that effectively filters it out. But then again, it could be we who change.

Already, legislation has been enacted in California that requires all advertisers to announce themselves by putting "ADV" in the subject heading. But since many spammers

operate offshore or can't be traced, it's unclear how effective this law — or any law — will be.

Meanwhile, techies are hard at work devising ever newer filters to scan e-mail before it gets to the inbox. But so far, these don't work perfectly. Some legitimate e-mails get spiked while some sleazy ones get through.

So the filters have a way to go.

That leaves it to us to change — and we just might. Some folks already have started using two e-mail addresses: One for their inner circle, the other for all their online searches and purchases.

That way, they can ignore any messages sent to the second address.

Or it also could be that more and more of us will start accepting e-mails only from friends we have pre-approved, the same way some people program their phones to accept calls only from a select list of buddies.

But maybe — just maybe — we will opt out of e-mail entirely.

Spam will spoil the medium the way sewage can spoil a lake. We'll regard the inbox with disgust.

If so, a new technology could spring up to replace e-mail. Or we just may go back to those incredibly hokey methods of communication we'd been so ready to mothball.

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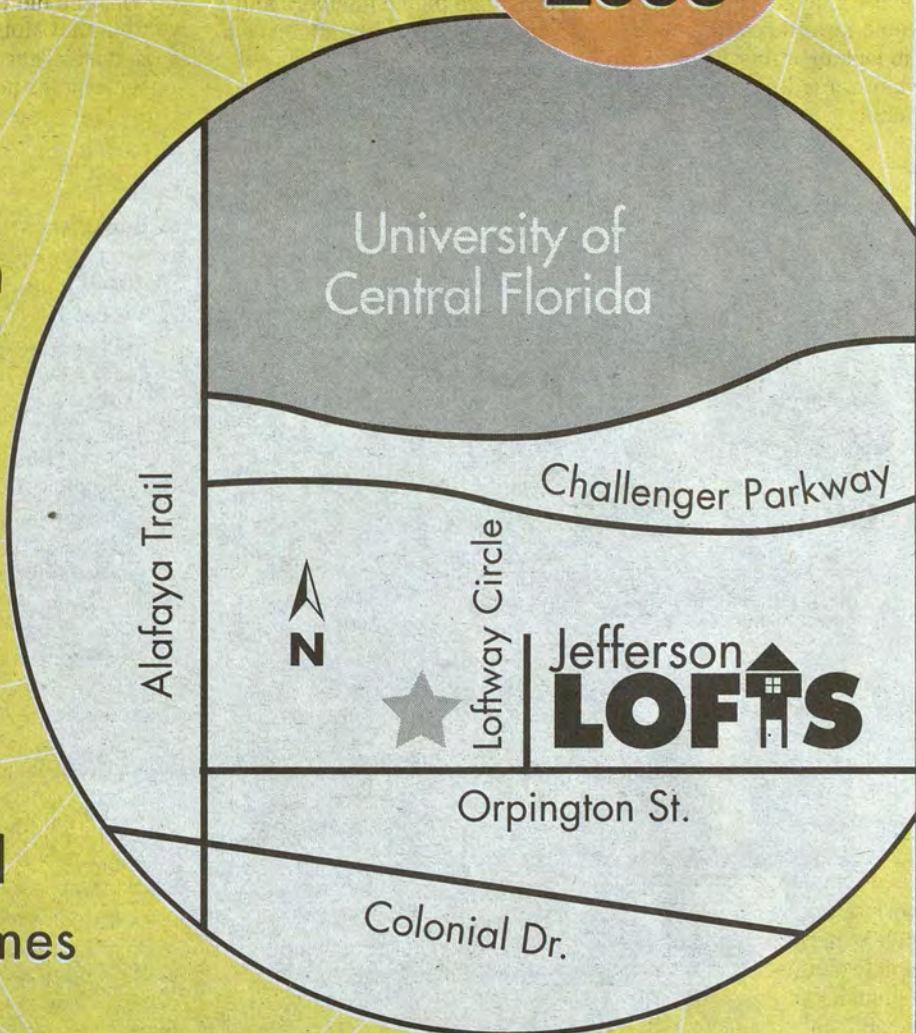
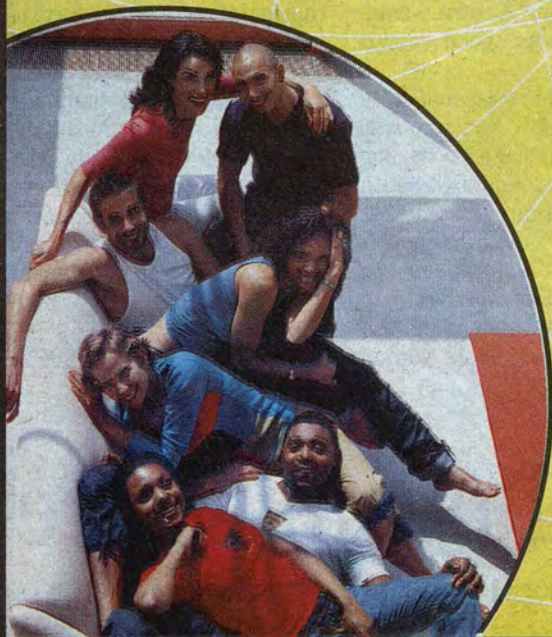
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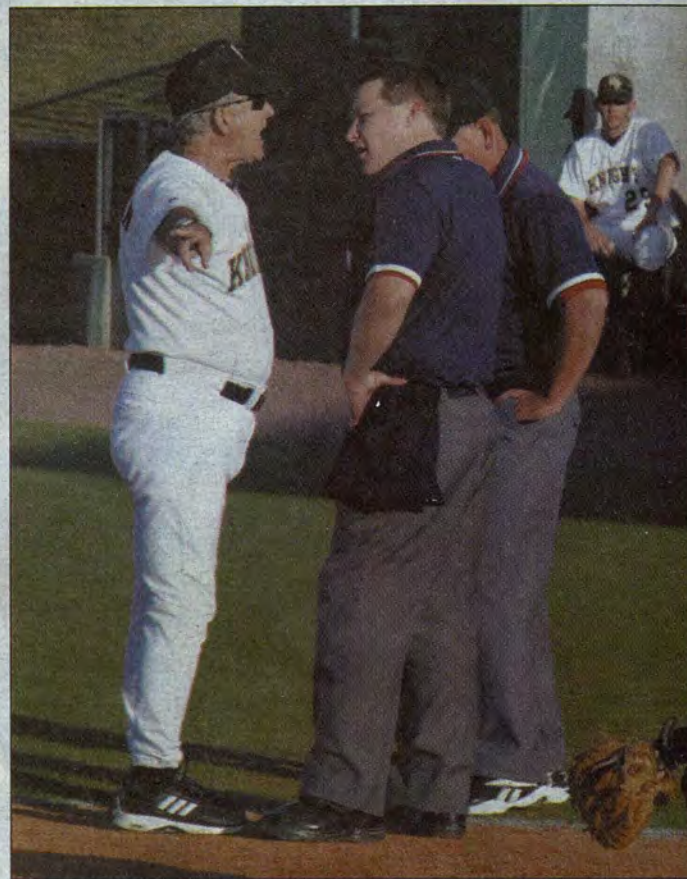
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Tim Ford's heart and hustle has made him one of the most popular players at the baseball stadium



UCF Coach Jay Bergman argues with homeplate umpire Tim Pasche after he was ejected from Tuesday's game.

Comedy of errors plague Knights

CHRIS BERNHARDT
STAFF WRITER

Coming off an abysmal doubleheader against Florida Atlantic last Saturday, it seemed like the UCF baseball team had hit rock bottom. Then came a Tuesday night home game against Bethune-Cookman and somehow things managed to get worse, and more bizarre, as the Golden Knights fell 18-5.

By the end of the game UCF had given up 14 hits, 12 walks, committed five errors, used nine pitchers, 26 players total and had their manager ejected.

"This was the worst," outfielder Dee Brown said. "Nothing was good about tonight."

The Wildcats scored early on starter Matt Fox, who was unable to duplicate his sterling performance against South Florida the previous week. With one out Sebastien Boucher hit a ball that bounced over the head of third baseman Drew Butera for an infield single. He quickly stole second

and after Fox walked John Gragg, Roberto Rodriguez hit a shot up the middle that tipped off of Fox's glove and brought Boucher home. Gragg came around on a wild pitch to give Bethune-Cookman a quick 2-0 lead.

Then came the very strange second inning that included four runs on no hits. Fox and Taylor Cobb combined to walk five batters and hit two more, though they were victimized by the extremely questionable strike zone of home plate umpire Tim Pasch.

Also during that inning UCF Coach Jay Bergman got into an argument with Pasch while making a pitching change, resulting in Bergman's ejection and inciting an intense confrontation between the two. Bergman had not gotten tossed from a game since last season.

"I think we all share his sentiments," said Assistant Head Coach Greg Frady, who took over after Bergman got ejected. "It's hard to comment on umpiring. Certainly we may not have been in agreement with some things that hap-

PLEASE SEE *UCF* ON 23

CHRIS BERNHARDT
STAFF WRITER

Counting the number of at-bats Tim Ford has had in his collegiate career almost requires just two hands. In two years at UCF, the sophomore catcher/outfielder has come to plate just 11 times in the 12 games he has appeared in.

Quantifying the amount of applause he receives from simply jogging back to the dugout after warming up a pitcher would take considerably more effort. Indeed this former walk-on has become a huge fan favorite at Jay Bergman Field, particularly for the most boisterous of UCF's fans, the Rowdy Knights. "Everyone loves Timmy and that's why we always cheer for him," said Adrian Moore, president of the Rowdy Knights. "He's great; he's an inspiration. He cares so much about it and loves to play."

So how does a third stringer who sees more time catching in the bullpen than in a real game turn into something of a cult hero?

PLEASE SEE *Coaches* ON 21



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ILLUSTRATION
BY ADAM
SHIVER / CFF

Lightweight 8+ boat earns national prominence

JON KUTILEK
STAFF WRITER

"It's hard to single out a boat or an individual," said UCF rowing Coach Dennis Kamrad. "No person is more important than the others."

But this year's lightweight 8+ boat has earned some singing out.

The boat, consisting of rowers Tiffany Richmond, Lauren Gombar, Lindsay Wood, Katherine Motes, Kristen Kesser, Laura Brad, Tiffany Beck, Heather Seward and coxswain Summer Taylor recently broke into the top 10 nationally. Last weekend the sixth-ranked lightweight 8+ earned a gold medal at the Southern

Intercollegiate Rowing Association Championships in Tennessee.

Traditionally one of the most competitive boats in all of rowing, the UCF lightweight boats had lost some speed over the past four years. Kamrad and the rest of his staff spent the past summer thinking of what could be done to get their light-

weight program back to national prominence.

"We have an exceptionally talented group of freshmen," Kamrad said.

The lightweight boat proved its worth this season responding extremely well to an aggressive schedule in which the team faced

three of the highest ranked schools in the nation, Delaware, Villanova and Wisconsin. And on this very young squad, which has five freshmen, two sophomores and two seniors, they actually beat Villanova and Delaware, and finished just three

PLEASE SEE *Dad* ON 23

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“As long as I coach here they'll be a place for Timmy Ford on our baseball team.”

—JAY BERGMAN
Baseball Head Coach



Tim Ford is as much a fan favorite at Jay Bergman Field as hot dogs, sunflower seeds and Cracker Jacks.

PHOTO BY ADAM ROSCHE / CFF; PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY ADAM SHIVER / CFF

Coaches, players and fans appreciate Ford's dedication

FROM PAGE 18

The same way that he made the team, wearing his love for the game of baseball on his uniform sleeve.

"I love it, every minute of it," Ford said. "Just being out here, having fun, being with the guys. Just enjoying every minute of it."

Baseball became a passion for Ford way back in second grade. He never stopped loving it, playing it all the way through his days at Oak Hall High School in Gainesville. As a senior there he hit .462 with one home run and 28 runs batted in, numbers that earned him second team all-state honors and got him named as his team's most valuable player. Yet no colleges came calling for the 5-foot-11, 190-pound right-handed hitter.

So he went to UCF, going through tryouts during Labor Day weekend of his freshman year. After having to wait through the whole holiday weekend, he got the news he had hoped for: that he would indeed have the chance to play at the collegiate level.

"Tuesday came and they put the posting up on the front door and my name was on it," Ford said. "First person I called was my mom and dad. They were real excited, I was real excited."

More than any particular skill, the way he goes about his business on and off the field has left Golden Knights' coaching staff knowing they made the right decision.

"Just a great kid off the field, on the field, he loves UCF," Coach Jay Bergman said. "He's proud to be a member of the baseball team."

As a former walk-on, Ford has had to endure performing menial tasks such as catching batting practice, not getting a chance to hit during pre-game workouts, spreading tarps, serving as bullpen catcher and warming up

pitchers between innings.

None of that seems to bother Ford though, as he appears content to have an opportunity to serve a role, any role, on a baseball team. That dedication and willingness to do even the simplest of things to help his team has endeared him not only to fans and coaches, but his teammates as well.

"He'll do anything for you, and I appreciate it so much," pitcher Von David Stertzbach said. "Hustles every single day, on and off the field and gives it his all. Off the field tries to be a leader and is a leader. Every time I need him to catch a bullpen or work on some flat ground stuff he's always there to do it."

Recently Ford has received a little more playing time. After playing in just two games and getting one at-bat as a freshman, he has appeared in 10 games and made four starts at designated hitter this season.

Overall he has three hits in 10 at-bats with a run scored. Getting his first hit was a particularly special moment for Ford, a goal he ranked as second to making the team.

How did his popularity reach such a high level that chants of "Timmay" have become some of the loudest, and most routine, heard at a UCF home baseball game?

Part of that comes from having a personal relationship with the Rowdy Knights, through rooming with Rowdy Knight David Taylor.

"Me and him just got to be friends over one summer when we were roommates," Taylor said. "He knows his playing time is going to be sparse but that's what's really great about him. He knows that and he still just works twice as hard all the time and he's still got a great attitude about it."

Fans can also witness his hustle first hand when he sprints from the dugout to the bullpen during games,

sometimes at full speed and always with full catchers' gear on, in order to warm up a reliever.

The way he made the team, his passion for the game, his limited playing time and the adoration he gets from stands has turned him into something of a Rudy figure, like the former Notre Dame walk-on made famous by the movie "Rudy." Some of his friends have even taken to calling him Rudy.

It's an image Ford is perfectly comfortable with, as he appreciates the attention heaped upon him by the Rowdy Knights and other fans.

"The fans, they do a great job," Ford said. "I love them Rowdy Knights. They're always yelling at me, they even made posters for me, which is great. I've never had that kind of support before. My parents are here all the time and they're loving it. The Rowdy Knights are loving it, I'm loving it."

Realistically UCF is probably the end of the line for Ford as a player, though he said coaching is something he would definitely like to look into. Though an accounting major, he can't seem to picture himself working a desk job.

He has worked baseball camps over the summer and helped out with freshmen catchers Drew Butera and Ryan Bono, so he has some experience teaching others. The way he approaches the game of baseball as a player certainly sets a great example of what everyone should put into the game.

"There are no words that can express the gratitude a coach could have for a player like Timmy Ford," Bergman said. "Timmy is the epitome of team membership. As long as I coach here they'll be a place for Timmy Ford on our baseball team. The effort and attitude is A number one."

And that effort and attitude is why a player with limited at-bats receives unlimited appreciation.

Roof, LeConche help men's golf to successful season

JON KUTILEK
STAFF WRITER

On a golf team with so much talent, it is hard to single out an individual player. After much consideration, Coach Nick Clinard of the UCF men's golf team chose Matt LeConche and Barry Roof as two of the biggest standouts on the team this season.

"I could very easily talk about all of them, there are only seven guys on the team," Clinard said. "All of our starters are exceptionally good. Everyone has contributed."

But LeConche and Roof had two of the best seasons for the Knights this year. Roof finished in a tie for third place, along with fellow Knight Stefan Wistorf, at the Coastal Carolina Invitational in Myrtle Beach, S.C. And LeConche came in at second place at the LSU Invitational in Baton Rouge, La.

Roof picked up the game of golf about 10 years ago, influenced by his two older brothers, and the strong golf history of his native Myrtle Beach, S.C. Roof gives credit to Clinard for helping him in the mental aspect of his game.

"Golf is such a grueling game, Coach gives us a lot of help to stay focused," Roof said.

The junior finds it very challenging to balance his grueling golf schedule and his academics, but says that it is worth the extra effort.

"It is tough to keep up with school," Roof said. "This is my first year playing college golf. But I wouldn't trade this experience for anything."

Roof is no stranger, however, to the pressures of sports and academics. He played two seasons of baseball at Coastal Carolina before transferring to UCF.

The liberal arts major hopes to turn pro after college.

"It will take a lot of hard work to improve to the level of a professional," Roof said.

LeConche has been playing competitive golf since the age of 7. Turned on to the game by his dad, a golf professional, LeConche's father saw so much potential in his son that starting at the age of 10, they started living half the year in West Hartford, Conn., LeConche's birthplace, and half the year in Florida, so he could play in more tournaments.

LeConche also cites Clinard for helping him with his game.

"Coach is always very positive; always telling us how to improve our games," LeConche said.

The junior says he loves playing golf for the UCF team, and wouldn't mind playing professionally after college.

"I've had a fun experience. I get to travel and play all over the country. My main goal is to play pro. I've played for so long, I don't want to do anything else," LeConche said.

Roof and LeConche helped UCF to a third-place finish at the Atlantic Sun Championship last week in Daytona Beach.

"Both of them are very talented, they have a lot of raw ability," Clinard said.

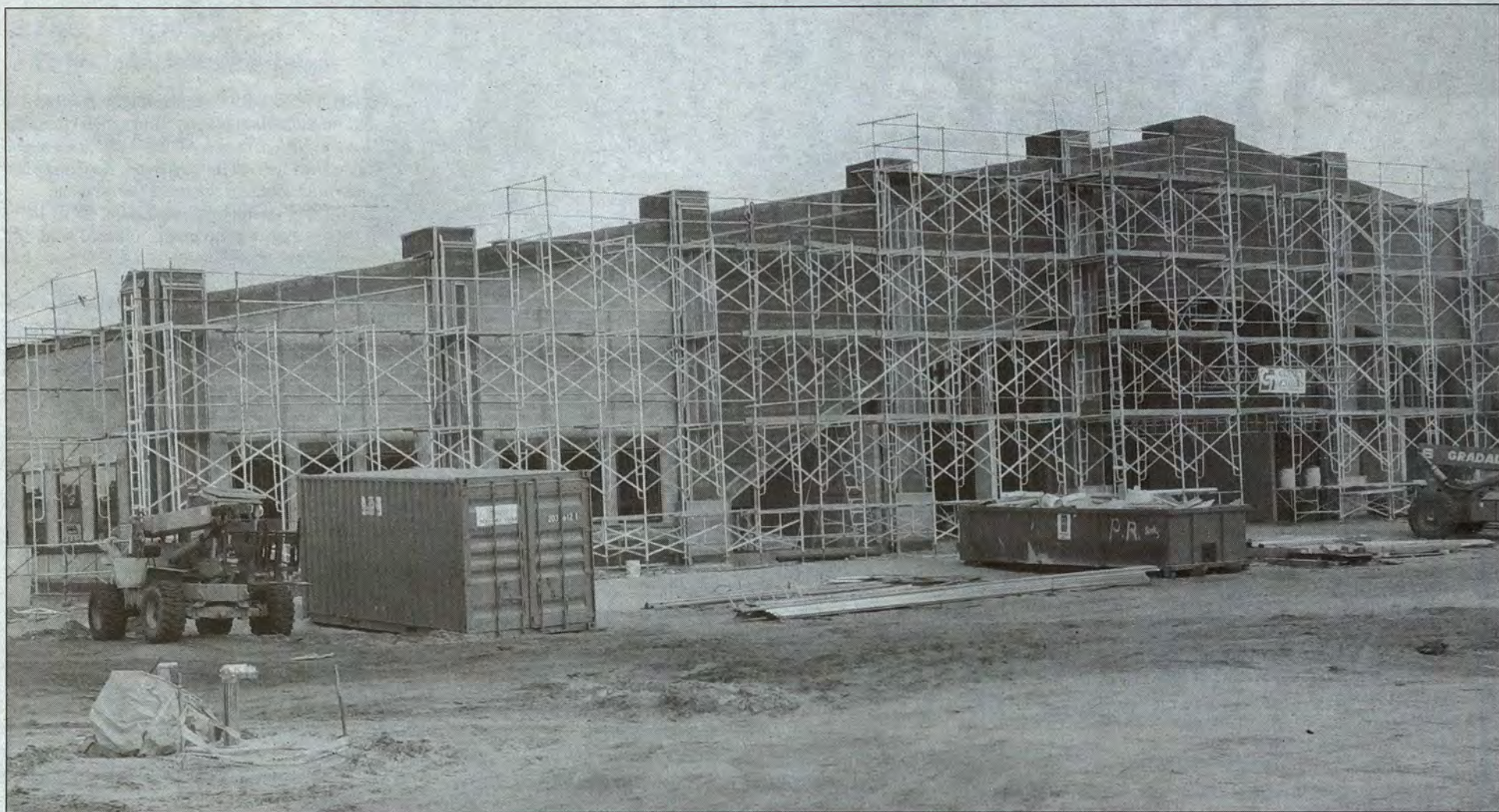


COURTESY SPORTS INFORMATION

Barry Roof transferred to UCF after playing baseball for two seasons at Coastal Carolina.

GROWTH OF A PROGRAM

Building for a bright future



ADAM ROSCHE / CFF

The new Wayne Densch Sports Center is set to open sometime during July. It will feature a 10,000 square-foot conditioning center, a 5,500 square-foot medicine center and a 4,000 square-foot locker room.

CHRIS BERNHARDT
STAFF WRITER

The University of Central Florida hopes to open its sparkling new state-of-the-art football facility some time in July. Under construction since last August, those within the school's athletic department hope it will provide a significant boost to the ever-growing program.

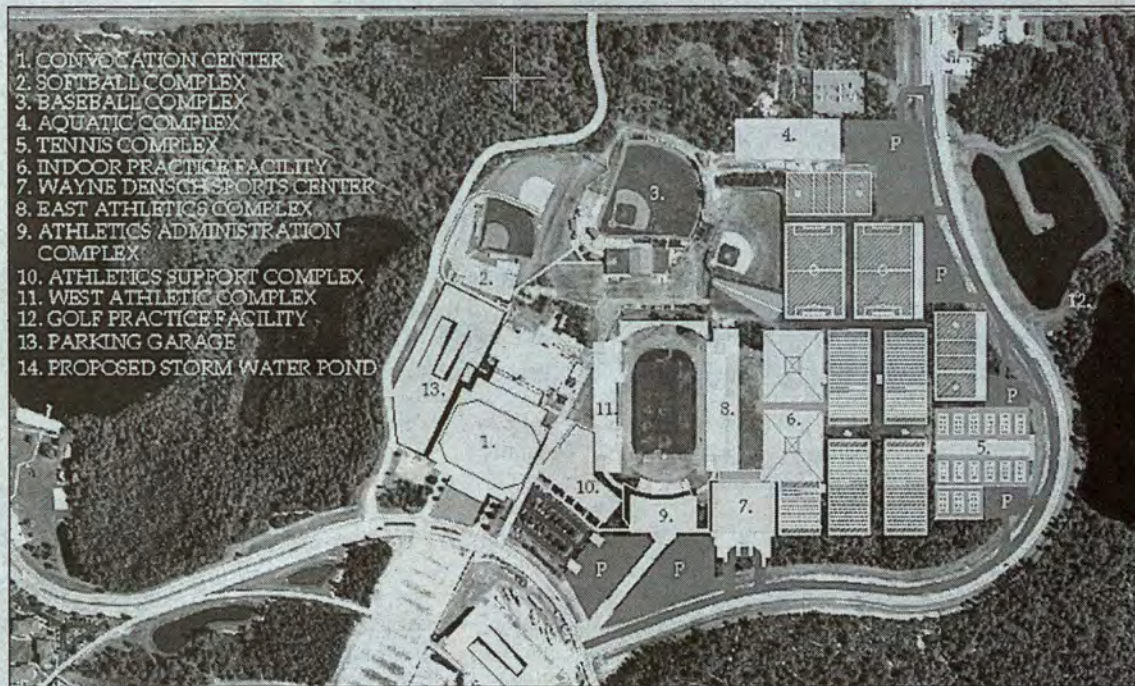
"When I got here last summer, my view of the facilities that our football program was using what I would describe it as Division II level in the NCAA," UCF Athletic Director Steve Orsini said. "It was built when the UCF football program was in Division II shifting to the Division I-AA level. We are now in the highest level of competition in the nation."

Already dubbed the new Wayne Densch Sports Center, the new facility will replace the original building, also of that name, as the home base for the school's football program. It will have a 10,000 square-foot conditioning center, a 5,500 square-foot medicine center and a 4,000 square-foot locker room. Also, it will contain a theatre-style meeting area and offices for the coaches.

It seems to have paid dividends already. During a recent press conference to announce UCF's 2003 recruiting class, football Coach Mike Kruczek cited the facility's construction as one reason for bringing in the most successful recruiting class in the program's history. Local prep standout Steven Moffett of Winter Park, who ranked as the second best high school quarterback in the state, topped that class.

"I attribute that, and (Kruczek) does too, to the ability to say and show a recruit that this new facility will be done in time for you to walk on the campus as a freshman. you can spend your entire career under a state-of-the-art facility that will give you all the tools necessary to build yourself up to the best you can be in a Division I-A program, and you compete against the best in the

Wayne Densch Sports Center will house football program



COURTESY UCF

This plan highlights all of the facilities in the future of UCF athletics, including a new convocation center/arena and aquatic center.

country," Orsini said.

While the opening of this building serves as a major event for the athletic department as a whole, UCF has many other programs besides football that have already received a similar upgrade in facilities, or will, the coming years. The school has what it calls the Athletics Master Plan, the design for the Intercollegiate Athletic Sports Complex. Some parts of it, such as the football facility, are already visible. Others are in the works. But once all the pieces of this plan become a reality, they will fit together to provide UCF with the kind of state-of-art athletic facilities that rival those of other NCAA Division I-A programs.

"The goal of the master plan is to continue the growth of our athletic program," Orsini said. "We have a

great opportunity at UCF as far as athletic facilities are concerned, and that is why we have a lot of land that has been designated by the president to be used to grow our athletic department."

The proposed complex would center around the area of the UCF Arena located on the campus' north side. It began in earnest on Feb. 3, 2001, when Jay Bergman Field opened its gates. The 950-seat baseball stadium includes both baseball and track-and-field coaches' offices, a reception area, a full-sized conference room, two locker rooms for both players and coaches, a batting cage and a weight room. It also houses the UCF Athletics Hall of Fame.

The other dimensions of the proposed complex include: a new convocation center, completing the

existing softball and baseball complexes, an aquatic complex, tennis complex, an indoor practice facility, a golf practice facility and several other buildings that would cater to administrative, training, utility and parking needs.

James Greenwell, an assistant athletic director and the head of UCF's facilities & operations department, has been heavily involved in the formation and execution of the Athletics Master Plan including serving as chair of the Athletics Master Planning Committee. He estimates all together the complex will cost \$150 million and take 10 years to finish.

According to Greenwell how, when and what funds are used to build each facility within the complex depend on many factors. Gender equality serves as one of the

biggest factors of when a facility gets built, thanks in large part to federal funding. Greenwell said that based on Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, a campus must give out a percentage of athletic scholarships equal to the makeup of its student population. If they don't, the school could lose federal funds.

Thus providing proper facilities for women's sports has become a priority, making the completion of the softball complex the most pressing item on the Athletics Master Plan. Since the softball program began play last season, the team has played in a facility still very much under construction, as the athletics department has been using student fees earmarked for gender equity to gradually complete the project.

"Softball, they've already split it in phases," said Joshua Kaplan, facilities operations manager. "First year was the field, then it was the dugouts. Now it's the batting cage. I would imagine the clubhouse is next. Then it'd be seats, then it'd be field lights and the project would be complete. One of those phases will begin next year."

Since Orsini became athletic director last year, he has attempted to move up the timetable for completing the softball complex. He said that it was originally projected to take three or four years to accumulate all the money to finish that complex. To speed up the process, he would like to take out a loan that would provide the finances needed to finish the softball complex sooner.

When funding becomes available largely determines how quickly facilities get built. The school depends greatly on boosters for that funding. Should someone volunteer to pay for a project, that project would get moved up in priority.

"Tennis could be the 10th of our 10 facilities," Kaplan said, "but tomorrow Andre Agassi could come forward and say 'I want to give you

PLEASE SEE **Baseball** ON 24

UCF can't afford many more losses

FROM PAGE 18

pened in the game but we're not going to blame the umpire for our losing."

The Knights seemed to get back into the game with two runs in the bottom of the inning, but allowed one in the fourth and completely unraveled in the fifth.

To start, reliever Jaime Douglas walked the first two batters of the inning, then Andrew Daly came on to hit the first batter he faced and load the base with no outs and Gragg at the plate. Daly finally recorded the first out of the inning by getting Gragg to hit a sacrifice fly to right to make the score 8-2, but the sequence of events that ensued was painful to watch.

First Daly committed an error on a bouncer in front of the mound, once again loading the bases. Juan Figueroa followed with a two-run single and Francisco Galindo hit fly ball to center field to score another run, giving the Wildcats an 11-2 advantage.

That ended Daly's day, but his replacement, Ryan Ramsey, didn't fair much better. Christian Taboas greeted him with a single and then Jon Lee got an RBI base hit to right field that right-fielder Ryan Bear over-pursued into a two-base error that plated another run. Suddenly the score had reached 13-2 in Bethune-Cookman's favor.

But the onslaught didn't end there. Second baseman Nathan Kragt and first baseman Rich Wallace committed back-to-back errors, scoring yet another two runs and Ramsey hit Boucher with an 1-2 pitch before Gragg finally ended the inning with a ground ball to first.

"It was just a bad inning," Brown said. "It just came, it happened. Everything that happened in that inning was terrible."

Dad Vail is final race of season

FROM PAGE 18

seconds behind Wisconsin.

So successful is the lightweight program here at UCF, that it lured senior Lauren Gombar to UCF from George Mason University.

"I heard good things about the UCF lightweight program," Gombar said. "The coaches have been really encouraging. They help a lot to motivate, and get you mentally focused."

Depth has also played a large role in the success of the entire rowing team this season.

"We are getting faster

All told the Knights gave up eight runs and committed four errors in that fateful fifth, falling behind 15-5. They bounced back somewhat with three runs in the bottom of the frame, but gave it all back by allowing three more runs to the Wildcats in the next inning.

That proved more than enough to send UCF to what was surely one of the worst losses in its history. Fox took the loss, dropping to 1-3, while Brandon Worrall (2-1) got a relatively easy win despite giving up five runs in five innings.

"Every year a baseball team has a game like this," Frady said. "Probably the worst part about it is the timing of it, we need to get hot down the stretch. To have a game like this at this time, it's not good."

The Knights, losers of three straight, are now 25-18 overall. Tuesday's game reflected the inconsistent season of a normally top-notch program.

"If you've noticed the pattern of how we've played, we've had a great game, a great game, a bad game, a great game, three bad games, a great game, there's no rhyme or reason why we play good or why we play bad," Frady said. "I'd like to say it was one particular reason or the other, I think the youth of this team at times rears its ugly head. But no excuses."

The Knights still have a chance to salvage the season beginning with a three-game road series at Gardner-Webb this weekend. At just 9-9 against the Atlantic Sun and tied for the final spot in the conference tournament, UCF can't afford to drop many more games.

"I think every series from here on out is a must win situation, I really do," Frady said. "The time has come for us to win or our season is going to be shorter than we'd like it to be."

because more people with quality times are pressuring the top boats," Kamrad said. "People in the second and third boats are pressing hard to be number one."

The culminating goal for the team this season is to win the varsity lightweight at the Dad Vail Regatta. The final race of the year, the Dad Vail is held on May 9-10 in Philadelphia. As an added incentive for winning, the trophy awarded to the winner at the Dad Vail is called the Dennis Kamrad Cup. The trophy was dedicated to the UCF coach in honor of his 30 years coaching the sport of rowing.

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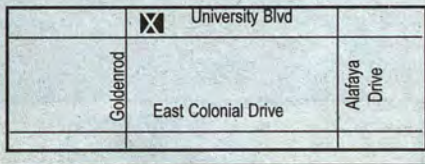


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Baseball stadium requires enhancements

FROM PAGE 22

guys \$6 million and call it the Andre Agassi UCF Athletic Complex. Guess what, that's going to be number one, we're going to be building that."

"Until you procure funds for the entire amount needed for (a facility) you won't get it built. Some things have to be on the forefront, Title IX, just to comply with NCAA regulations. But when you procure funds, that's when you'll bang out the ground."

Greenwell said that the athletic department could also use the student athletic fee as a source of funding, though the amount it allocates from that pool depends on how much money it receives from other resources and changes greatly from facility to facility.

"It's such a sliding scale, it's hard to tell now what is a priority," Greenwell said. "We've got a bundle of projects at the top that we want to try to get done based on how quickly we can get funding and how we're going to get it."

There are also political hurdles within the school to overcome. Once a plan for each facility is prepared and funding gets lined up, Orsini presents the plan to the University Master Plan Committee and the university's administration for approval. Orsini expressed pleasure in the support he has received from the administration.

"I think it's a major statement that the university is behind the athletic program," Orsini said. "It's so important to state that (UCF President Dr. John Hitt) is behind

that plan 110 percent. Without his support we couldn't get it done."

What the athletic department hopes will make this process go more smoothly is the plan to become a direct-support organization, much like the UCF Foundation. By doing that, Orsini said the department could do things such as take out loans, accept gifts and invest money as it sees fit. A board of directors headed by Hitt would have the final say in all matters.

That's something the athletic department will follow through on starting July 1. The University of Florida is one of the handful of schools that operates under that system and has produced obvious results. UCF would like to emulate such a method.

The UCF Arena serves as the current convocation center. Hitt has been quoted as saying it was out-of-date the moment it first opened in 1991. The 5,100 seat arena does not adequately serve the needs of graduation or athletic and entertainment events and has recorded financial losses in the past two years.

"It didn't serve its purpose almost from the day it opened its door, and the purpose being providing a quality gathering place for commencement services, for other student gatherings as well as for our athletic programs," Orsini said.

"Due to design limitations they weren't able to accomplish that goal to the satisfaction of both the student body and the commencement services needs as well as the growth of our athletic program."

The school has already put the

plan for a new convocation center through a feasibility study that agreed the school needs such a facility. Greenwell said that the proposed new convocation center will hold 10,000 seats and will include convention space and premium seating. The new convocation center would host large events, while the old arena would remain for less

“We need the continued growth and improvement of our athletic facilities at UCF so that we can compete on a national level.”

—STEVE ORSINI
Athletic Director

heavily attended happenings.

"[the current arena] would be a revolving one, volleyball, practices, smaller concerts, meetings," Kaplan said. "But the bigger one will be for commencement, big concerts, men's basketball, women's basketball, things like that."

According to Kaplan, an indoor practice facility wasn't high on the master plan map made a year earli-

er, but has jumped to the forefront. Though it would accommodate many sports, Kaplan indicated that the sudden desire to get such a facility constructed is a direct response to the football team losing 12 practices to inclement weather last season.

Much like the arena, Jay Bergman Field has needed improvements since it opened. The stadium needs more than its 950 seats if it hopes to one day host a NCAA Regional, a goal Coach Jay Bergman has stated he'd like to see reached.

"In order for us to be able to host postseason play for baseball we need at least 2,500," Greenwell said. "And I've heard of adding another 3,000 seats so we'd have a 4,000-seat facility. We haven't settled on the number but what has been decided is we will have a phase two of seating."

Still, it stands to reason that the better training opportunities these facilities provide for athletes will improve their overall performance and the team's performance. That brings better results and translates to better talent through recruiting, which should help generate more interest in the athletic program. Better facilities are also more attractive to fans. Combined with more interest, more fans will come and that's where owning and operating its own facilities really pays off for UCF.

One of the biggest pluses of these facilities is they provide an opportunity to bring in revenue through ticket and concession sales, as well as advertising. That

money can further provide funds for the athletic department.

About the only facility not included within the Athletics Master Plan is an on-campus football stadium. UCF plays all its home football games at the Citrus Bowl downtown, about 20 minutes from campus. Though attendance has been lacking and an on-campus stadium would obviously make for a more convenient commute for students, Orsini said that it is not high on the list of priorities.

"We're very happy with the Citrus Bowl situation," Orsini said. "It allows us to reach out, be a part of the Orlando community. And the other reason is we feel it's an up-hill battle to grow our fund-raising efforts and generate the type of funding that would be required with the current master plan, much less adding a huge facility with a huge financial burden."

When it's all said and done, the general hope is UCF will have a fine collection of facilities that will transform the program from the ranks of middle-of-the-pack to the elite level of its in-state brethren. When and if the program ever reaches that point remains to be seen. But building these facilities definitely moves UCF in the right direction. It also shows the commitment that the athletic department has in achieving a new level of collective success.

"We need the continued growth and improvement of our athletic facilities at UCF so that we can compete on a national level and carry the UCF name across the nation and help UCF's exposure," Orsini said.

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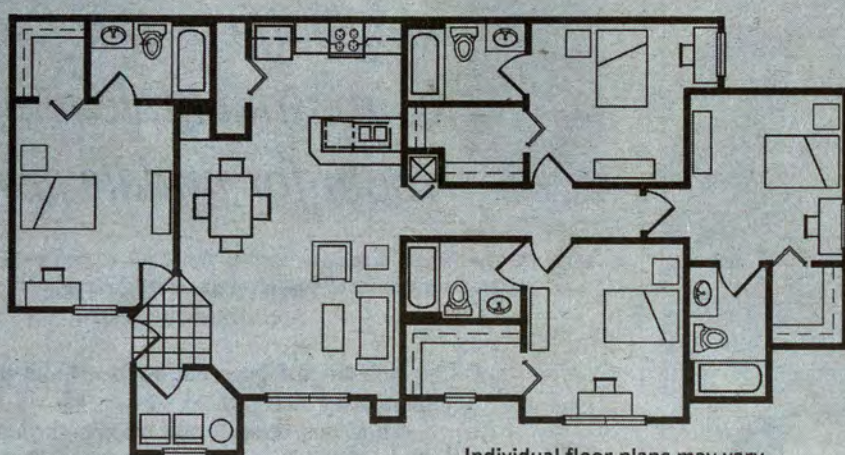
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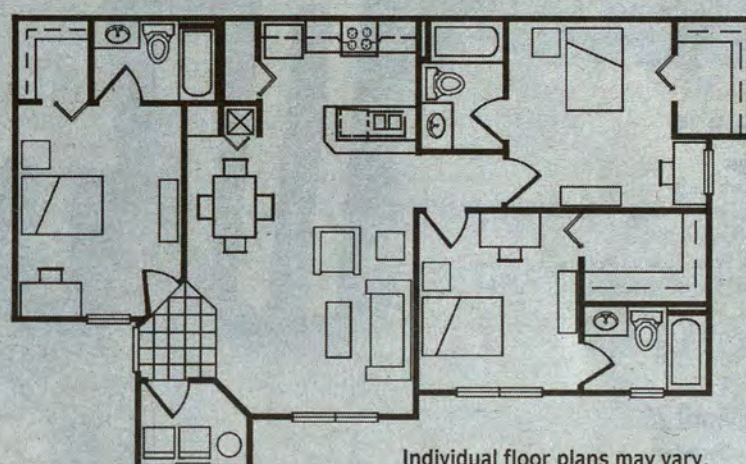


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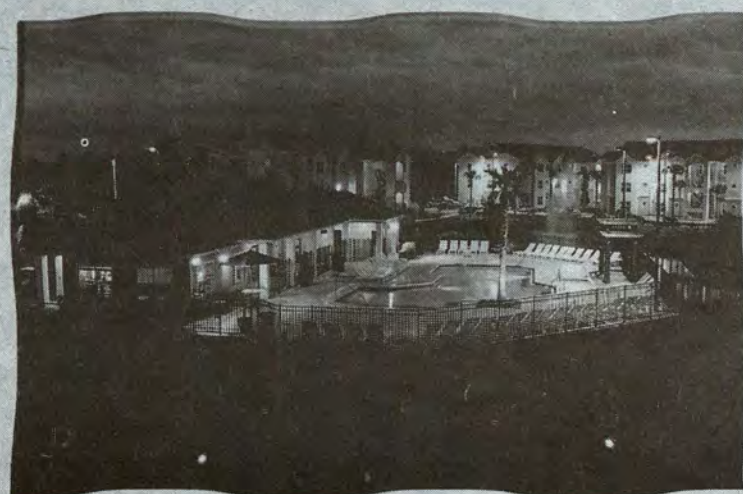
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Highlights of the cultural calendar

LINNEA BROWN
STAFF WRITER

Thursday, April 24

Get 'Naked' with Chris Kirkpatrick of N'Sync
Every Thursday DJ Don Phillips and Chris Kirkpatrick of N'Sync host "Naked," a night of hip-hop, house and freestyle at The Club, located in the historic Firestone building. Ladies 21 and up pay no cover and drink free all night. Doors open at 10 p.m. at 578 N. Orange Ave.; 18 and up; \$5 for over 21, \$10 for 21 or over; 407-872-0066.

Friday, April 25

Hardcore Midget Wrestling at Back Booth
Back Booth hosts "Hardcore Midget Wrestling III" featuring world-famous midgets Puppet, Leo and MJ-Lo on their "Rok'Um, Soc'Um" tour. Festivities include wrestling, boxing, kiss the midget and more. Show at 9 p.m. at 37 W. Pine St.; 18 and up; \$15; 407-999-2570.

Saturday, April 26

United Colors of Benetton and Sicily Fashion Show
DJ KJ will spin the hits for a fashion show featuring the 2003 spring and summer collections of Colors of Benetton and Sicily. Proceeds will benefit the Elisabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation. \$2 mixed drinks and bott beer until 11:30 p.m. Doors open at 10 p.m., show at 10:30 p.m.; Tabu nightclub 46 N. Orange Ave.; 18 and up; no cover; 407-648-8363.

Sunday, April 27

'Earthday Birthday X'
Real Rock 101.1 FM presents an all-day concert featuring Godsmack, 3 Doors Down, Sevendust, Seether, Stone Sour, Powerman 5000, American Hi-Fi, Trapt, Socialburn and more. Partial proceeds will benefit the Surfrider Foundation. Gates open at noon at Lee Vista Park, 7050 Augusta National Dr.; \$38 in advance, \$45 day of show; 407-916-7800 or 407-839-3900.

Monday, April 28

FringeFest preview party
Layden Sadecky will emcee the "Orlando International Fringe Festival Preview Party," where audience members can catch sneak previews from 21 acts scheduled to perform at this year's festival. Show starts at 7 p.m.; SAK Comedy Lab, 380 W. Amelia St.; \$10; 407-648-0077.

Tuesday, April 29

Steve Winwood at HOB
Steve Winwood, formerly of the Spencer Davis Group, Traffic and Blind Faith, brings his solo pop music tour to Orlando. Doors open at 6:45 p.m. and show starts at 8 p.m.; House of Blues, Downtown Disney WestSide; \$29.50 in advance, \$32.50 day of show; 407-934-2583.

Wednesday, April 30

The 'Amazing Miss Hypno'
Bonkerz Comedy Club in Altamonte Springs introduces a new hypnosis show every Wednesday night with the 'Amazing Miss Hypno' Michelle Beaudry. Show starts at 9 p.m. at 230 W. Hwy 436; 21 and up; free; 407-629-2665.

Thursday, May 1

'Go Figure' exhibit
A new art exhibit downtown called "Go Figure" celebrates and reveals the many forms of the human figure. Open Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.; OVAL gallery, 29 S. Orange Ave.; free; 407-648-1819.

To date or not to date

Most students opt for the single life or full-fledged commitment, leaving no room for middle ground

MEAGAN DONOHUE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Nobody just goes out anymore and dates, said junior Casey Moroney.

They may meet other people through mutual friends, but it is rare that someone will approach a random stranger and ask them out, the 21-year-old said.

Sophomore Brad Jones, 20, agreed. He doesn't know a single friend who has recently gone on a date.

Indeed, only half of the seniors surveyed nationwide were asked out on more than five dates in college, according to a study of college campuses conducted by the Institute of American Values and reported by the Chronicle of Higher Education. A third of seniors were asked out on two dates or fewer.

With the gender gap increasing, as more women than men enter college, and a greater fear of sexually transmitted diseases, dating has been wiped off most students' agendas, the survey said.

Students complain that dating may not be a practical relationship alternative.

"Nobody goes on dates anymore because we don't have any money," senior Megan O'Brien, 20, said. "We're too cheap."

Of 1,000 college women surveyed for the study, preference for the single life or a monogamous, serious relationship lingered above their desire to date.

For some, the freedom to fully concentrate on their own lives is more important.

"I don't want to feel obligated to anyone [by dating them]," senior Batrece Bloomfield, 22, said.

PLEASE SEE 63% ON 32

ILLUSTRATIONS BY CHRISTOPHER ARNOLD / CFF

New political party geared towards Gen-Y

Grass roots effort wants to attract young voters through Internet

MIKE RIEGEL
STAFF WRITER

Students who want to get a start in national politics have a new ally in a Web-based effort that, starting next fall, hopes to find and nurture congressional candidates under 30 with the goal of drawing

more of their peers to the polls.

If all goes according to plan, the result might be an "American Idol"-like reality-TV competition whose newly christened celebrity politicians would capture the imagination of youthful voters.

But before that happens, Thomas Bryer wants you to log on to www.party-y.org and see what the fuss is all about.

Bryer, 24, is the student at George Washington University in Washington, D.C., who in 2002 founded Party-Y, a grass roots political organization that will focus its efforts on mobilizing the mostly untapped demographic of 18-29-

year-olds.

The "Y" is a reference to both the word "youth" and to the so-called current "Generation-Y," which was preceded by Generation-X.

Research into voting trends indicates that youth participation in the democratic process is in a state of decline. According to the Center for Voting and Democracy, youth voting has deteriorated from 50 percent to 32 percent since 1972.

In the 2000 presidential election, more than 30 million voters under 30 did not cast a ballot.

With another 35 million people about to reach voting age, Party-Y

wants to give young people the government influence their numbers indicate they should have.

Proclaimed to be entirely created and run by young people, Bryer defines the goals of the new organization as threefold: run more young people for political office, elect more young people and increase the percentage of young people voting.

Partnering with Youth in Action, Party-Y hopes to promote a nationwide survey to determine the top concerns and solutions of youth in America. The results will be

PLEASE SEE College-aged ON 28



BRETT HART / CFF

From left, Brittany, Princess, and Christy prepare to disrobe in the opening scene of the second half of 'Les Femmes Fatale' at the Club Juana in Casselberry on Saturday.

Can't get enough Macbeth in the buff

THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED



LINNEA BROWN
STAFF WRITER

"Double, double toil and trouble; Fire burn and cauldron bubble," three pretty, perky young starlets narrated in unison.

The women stood huddled around a black, steaming cauldron onstage, stiffly reciting lines from local playwright Morris Sullivan's adaptation of Macbeth's 'Three Witches' scene. They kept their bodies firmly wrapped up in identical, floor-length black witches' cloaks and spoke into small microphones clipped onto their black bowties.

"Fillet of a fenny snake, in the cauldron boil and bake," Princess said flatly, rolling her eyes skyward. Her two co-stars exchanged looks, squelched their giggles ... and disrobed. Literally.

Last Saturday, I found myself sitting front-and-center at Club Juana's performance of 'Les Femmes Fatale,' the Seminole County strip joint's legal reason for performing 'bona-fide art' fully nude.

I began my evening at Club Juana, 6150 S. Hwy. 17-92, with my three, inebriated guy friends around 11 p.m. A scantily clad cocktail waitress seated us at a table as a friendly-looking, clothed stripper with long red hair and a tiny nose ring swooped down on me.

"Are you the one doing the article?" she asked eagerly. "Do you want to interview us

or anything?"

I obligingly followed her to a back room, leaving my delighted male friends to ogle at the nipple-taped pole dancers.

The redhead introduced herself as Christy, a dancer who has been acting in Club Juana's nude productions since 1999, when Seminole County voters opted to make Club Juana's tradition of nude dancing illegal — unless it could be considered art.

"I moved here to make money because the dancing was all nude, but three days later the law changed," Christy said, toying with her gold nameplate necklace. "So they hired a professional playwright to write us an all-nude production, and I've been doing it ever since."

A raven-haired, waif-like girl suddenly bopped into the room, introducing herself as Christy's co-star, Princess.

"I'm also the dancers' make-up artist," Princess announced importantly. "I do their tape."

"Tape?" I echoed, confused.

Oh ... their nipple tape.

Christy and Princess quickly summed up the four acts of 'Les Femmes Fatale,' a quirky little detective story, a cyber sex fantasy, the 'three witches' scene from Macbeth and a singing/raping number called "Busted."

"Our boss said we're only going to do the second half of the show tonight, though, because of the small crowd," Christy said regretfully. "But I really wanted you to see the first half because the cyber sex scene is soooooo funny."

I bet. This would definitely be my first time ever attending

PLEASE SEE *What* ON 28

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College-aged voting on decline

FROM PAGE 26

presented to the Presidential Candidates at the National Youth Conventions of 2004.

Party-Y has also joined with Young Candidates Network on their Web site, with efforts to link all candidates aged 30 and under from all parties and political affiliations with young voters to create more awareness and support for their campaign platforms.

Bryer hopes to see younger politicians elected to office through his Internet project.

Of the 435 members of the House of Representatives, where the minimum age requirement is 25, only one is under the age of 30.

To appeal to a technology-inclined generation, Bryer and Party-Y work to reach young people through the Internet. They also have plans for a political reality show.

Scheduled to begin in late 2003, "Party-Y Roadshow" is designed to recruit young candidates from college campuses nationwide to run for Congress.

The traveling spectacle will

include campaign buses, concerts and celebrity guests.

Students will be able to audition to be a contestant on the show or sign up to be a member of the new party, which says it will be all-partisan, accepting young people from different political ideologies and backgrounds.

Once the contestants have been determined, they'll be pitted against each other in tests of knowledge, head-to-head debates and physical challenges to determine endurance and toughness.

The final determinant will be a talent show to showcase what the candidates feel will put them over the top. After that, it's up to Party-Y and the American public to decide who will be able to run their own congressional campaigns.

The cameras will stay on the winners as they vie for votes and appeal to the causes and concerns of today's youth. If one of the candidates does win an election, party members will be able to watch their candidate introduce the legislation and ideas that set them apart during

the competition.

With more young candidates representing youth-related issues, Party-Y organizers say that voting will start to appeal to an audience that has displayed disinterest in the current political system.

"The television is the best way to reach [young people]," senior Keri Greene, 21, said. "But some reality shows end up doing more harm than good."

Greene, who said that she votes on a regular basis, anticipates that she will watch the show at least once out of curiosity. "If they pick the right people as contestants then it might be a hit TV show, but I don't think any of them will get elected."

Party-Y and its affiliates, however, remain hopeful of their new movement.

"Young people deserve to have a greater voice in the political process," said Benjamin Quinto, associate director of Youth in Action, partnered with Party-Y. "By providing innovative ways to reach our peers, we engage those historically relegated to the sidelines of politics."

What strippers will do for art

FROM PAGE 27

only "the second half" of a production.

The girls' third co-star, Brittany, refused to be lured from her lap-dancing territory in the lounge. A statuesque beauty with long, blonde curly hair and a pierced tongue, she walked impatiently into the back room only long enough to adjust her thong.

"What?" she whined. "I'm making money."

As the girls excused themselves to get ready for the play, I ducked inside manager Richard Middleton's tiny office, where fifty-something, gray-haired Middleton was busily chatting on the phone.

Unfortunately, the most interesting things he had to say were to other people.

"Yeah, the convict came in here last night, tipped me \$100 bucks and we got our problems straightened out," Middleton boasted into the receiver, stroking his gray mustache.

A hundred bucks? Must be nice. (Somebody remind me why I'm pursuing journalism and not strip-club management.)

Middleton hung up the phone, lit a cigarette and yapped tiredly about the legalities of nudity, strippers and his preference for younger women.

I politely thanked him and hurried back out to join my friends who, having consumed

a few more rounds, were drunkenly judging Club Juana's entertainment.

"My heart rate hasn't risen above average since we've been here," senior Chad Smith, 22, slurred. "The girls don't go upside down and they don't slide backward down the pole."

"And they're too covered up," sophomore Josh Haupt, 21, interrupted.

"Their titty tape makes it look like they have on boob helmets ... and they're all wearing parachute underwear."

Not for long, I thought, as the lights dimmed and the three actresses appeared on stage in their witches' robes. They reeled off a few Shakespearian phrases, threw off their capes and — poof — were butt-naked for the rest of the show.

It was definitely an eyeful. After the Macbeth scene, the cast performed a racy exotic dance, prompting my friends to numbly congregate at the front of the stage to lay dollars at their feet.

"Dude, did you see her mole?" Smith hissed excitedly to the rest of the table, pointing at a conspicuous beauty mark between one of the dancer's, uh, cheeks.

I decided to stop listening to my friends.

The performance culminated with a hilarious nude "rap" about the strip club's First Amendment rights. I will never

forget the oddly liberating sight of three naked women rapping verses like:

Three little dancers took their clothes off.

Some people were disgusted.

The cops said we must call our shows off.

Or get busted.

OK, OK — so maybe 'Les Femmes Fatale' itself was shallow, underwritten and the girls were obviously 'acting' ... but they smiled brightly, performed enthusiastically and truly seemed to be having fun.

And really, after they removed their clothes, I doubt that anyone was paying attention to the plot.

The funniest nude event of the evening, however, occurred as we were driving back toward UCF and Haupt suddenly motioned for me to pull into an apartment complex.

"We're going to visit Jen," he exuded drunkenly. "But we have to be naked."

Without any hesitation, the three guys stripped off every stitch of their clothing and went on a wild, intoxicated streaking spree. I laughed harder than I have in years.

I guess they were feeling oppressed after all the Club Juana nakedness....

Blame it on the nudey bar.

Columnist Linnea Brown can be reached at lbrown@ucffuture.com

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April Fool's issue no joking matter

ALEX BABCOCK
STAFF WRITER

Teresa Schwarz, a 22-year-old senior at Stetson University, will complete a double-major in religious and communications studies this semester. She expected to finish her term as editor-in-chief of the school's paper, *The Reporter*, at the same time, but that was two weeks ago, before administrators fired her, along with her staff.

The Distorter, the campus paper's April Fool's issue, has challenged the values of the school for as long as professors can remember. This year's issue, published April 2, took the joking too far though, said Dean of Students Michelle Espinosa. A torrent of criticism over racist and sexist content drove Espinosa and *Reporter* adviser Darald Stubbs to fire the paper's staff and halt production until next fall.

Schwarz said the punishment does not fit the crime, and students who had no role in the joke issue are suffering the consequences, like those handling business and advertising. More importantly though, she says the adviser made things personal, and she resents the insulting way he treated the staff at their final meeting.

The day before Schwarz was fired, she met with Espinosa to discuss the repercussions of the issue. Something had to be done, the dean told Schwarz, but she did not mention specific action. Both Schwarz and associate opinions editor August Brown, who wrote the two most criticized articles in *The Distorter*, offered to resign, but Espinosa decided further action was needed. She asked Schwarz to call an emergency meeting with the entire staff for the next day.

When *The Reporter's* staff arrived at noon April 9, they were met by only one university official, Stubbs. Though he held the title of adviser since last fall, he had never attended a meeting with the staff, until that Wednesday. This was unusual, Schwarz said, because previous advisers had routinely attended meetings, offering their advice to the budding journalists and hobbyists on the staff.

As Schwarz recalled, the 20-minute meeting was a demoralizing, insulting affair. "He lambasted our moral character for 15 minutes of the 20 minute firing speech," Schwarz said. "He said this is the most disappointing and disgusting student interaction he's ever had ... there were a whole bunch of adjectives to describe us, and none of them were flattering."



Teresa Schwarz, former editor of the Stetson Reporter, was fired for this April Fool's issue.

At the conclusion of Stubbs's remarks, Schwarz said, he told the group "Effective immediately, you're all terminated. You have 15 minutes to gather your stuff, because we're changing the locks."

The staff knew he was serious; a maintenance woman began changing the locks almost immediately. Soon after, their access to the paper's Web site was also revoked. That action consequently kept visitors to the Stetson Web site from seeing old copies of *The Reporter*.

"I thought it was inappropriate, the way he handled it," Schwarz said. "The words he chose to say were very insulting. I thought he could have been more tactful."

Lifestyle Editor Jen Wilson agreed that Stubbs's comments were harsh. "I would have paid large amounts of money to have a tape recorder for what he said at that meeting," she said.

Most baffling to Schwarz and Brown is the short-sightedness of the decision, as they see it. The learning experience is going to waste if they can't continue to produce a paper, Schwarz said.

That censoring began a week earlier, when Schwarz learned that the paper was on suspension while the administration considered how to handle the public image crisis *The Distorter* had created. Schwarz explained that although the paper publishes weekly, it usually has a week break once a month. The break happened to coincide with the suspension, so no actual production halt occurred.

While her staff waited in limbo, Schwarz watched the papers fly off the stands. A larger than usual 2,200 copy production had nearly disappeared in the week after publication. Once word spread that the issue's content got the staff fired, the remaining issues either were picked up by students, or removed by

administrators. By the night of April 9, Schwarz said, there were no papers at the 15 distribution points on campus.

It was evident, though, that the administration was embarrassed by the publication. For the first time ever, Schwarz said, a stack of papers showed up back at *The Reporter's* offices, which she suspects came from the admissions office. She also said she saw a campus tour guide physically stop a prospective student's mother from picking up a copy of *The Distorter* from a distribution rack.

The day after the meeting, the news media caught wind of the story; both the *Orlando Sentinel* and the *Daytona News-Journal* interviewed Schwarz and other staff members. Local TV stations soon caught on, and the story spread across the nation. Newspapers including the *Washington Post*, carried the story, as did CNN.

An online Ms. Magazine columnist wrote critically of the staff's decision to publish the jokes. Brown said he was even interviewed by phone live on a radio show in Kansas.

"At first it was exciting," Schwarz said, "but then people started putting us on the front page next to Baghdad and I started thinking 'Why do people care so much? We're just little podunk Stetson.'"

Ultimately, Schwarz said at least 25 news sources contacted the staff about the story. She said she started ignoring requests once she realized it was too much to handle; several requests a day for essay-format responses to new questions would arrive by e-mail, she said.

Interspersed with the requests for comment were accusations that Schwarz was homophobic and sexist. She says she's neither of these things, and her background should be proof enough.

Though her dad has yet to see the paper, her mom has read it, and thought it was funny, but "she could see why people were upset," Schwarz said. Even her grandmother has defended her, saying the paper is not as bad as the administration and the news media have portrayed it.

Schwarz started working in newspapers while in high school, for the teen-oriented weekly RAVE section of the *Orlando Sentinel*. When she arrived at Stetson in 1999, she pursued journalism by joining the paper as associate lifestyle editor.

During the years that followed, she worked her way up the hierarchy, reaching editor-in-chief last fall. "I could never explain why I stuck with the newspaper like I did," she said. "When I started out, I got \$15 an issue ... as editor-in-chief I got \$50. It's not like I was in it for the money. No one on *The Reporter* does it for the money."

Since Stetson offers only a

minor in journalism, Schwarz was academically limited; the paper filled the role as her teacher. Though she was unsure of her future after Stetson, she said the events since *The Distorter* published have given her a new focus — starting an independent paper.

Schwarz and several former *Reporter* members have met twice to discuss plans to form a new paper, something they say the school deserves, whether it's an official campus publication or not.

The *DeLand Beacon* newspaper is considering funding the project, which it wants to be broadened to encompass other area campuses. Schwarz said she thinks the administration will be accepting of the independent, partly because the staff has been passive about the decision to shut down the paper.

Stetson has already started making amends after the fall-out

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Editor slammed for funny advice column

FROM PAGE 30

caused by *The Distorter*. Schwarz met with Espinosa Monday to discuss the future of *The Reporter*, which was founded in 1887. Though Stubbs said members of the staff were not welcome to return to the paper during his firing speech, Espinosa said at the meeting that the staff is welcome to re-apply, even for editor-in-chief. "She was very friendly and welcoming, a totally different attitude from the one Darald [Stubbs] had when he fired us," Schwarz said.

"She has to know, if none of my staff returns ... it's not going to work out very well," Schwarz said. "It's going to take them a lot of time to catch up to where we were, competitively."

The Reporter has ranked second for two years among Florida private colleges in *Florida Leader* magazine. The paper ranked first for five years before that.

The issue that made the critically acclaimed paper reviled and infamous published April 2; development on it began two weeks earlier, though. At an editorial meet-

ing, the staff started tossing ideas around; one staffer suggested a satire about the school's Howard Thurman lecture series; other staffers liked the idea.

Rather than reporting on the usual serious, racial tolerance-focused lectures characterizing the series, *The Distorter* story featured a tirade about the importance of slavery. During the fictitious speech, a drunken, shirtless, overall-clad white-supremacist made proclamations like "Cotton ain't gonna pick itself."

The lecture, titled "Keepin' Slaves Ain't Really So Bad When You Think About It," included references to the speaker's fictitious book, "I Reckon." The name is a reference to a real lecture at Stetson last year titled "The Reckoning," by Randall Robinson, a supporter of reparations for the descendants of American slaves.

Brown, the satire's writer, said the story was meant to criticize racists, not promote racism. He and other staff members thought the irony of the story would be obvious to students at a school openly promoting racial dia-

logue, he said.

The issue credits one of Brown's pseudonyms "Awful Borin" as the story's author. A prophetic tagline at the end of the story reads "Awful Borin is as good as fired."

The racist speaker story and

"I've still got another two years to live with this."

—AUGUST BROWN

Sophomore associate opinion editor

a sex advice column by Brown drew most of the criticism that inundated the school after *The Distorter* published. Brown, who minors in journalism, writes a regular sex advice column with joke answers to real questions.

The paper's circulation, said

Schwarz, has increased since the column started in January. The advice in *The Distorter* column was also meant to be a joke, but even jokes, Brown found, can have serious implications.

Fictitiously written by Oakland, Calif., celebrity Bubb Rubb, the column offered advice including slapping girlfriends and treating them roughly during sex. Rubb wrote in response to a fictitious letter: "I mean some times, you's just gotta slap dat bitch right in her dumb ho eye until she too damn blind to see nuthin."

Brown said he now understands the mistake in publishing the column. Though he wrote it for a small group of friends who were aware of the real Bubb Rubb, tearful responses from rape victims made him question his judgment.

What he learned from the experience, he said, will be invaluable in his future with journalism. Like Schwarz, he has written for newspapers since high school. He hoped to continue doing so, and plans to help the independent paper Schwarz is developing; he'd even like to start a weekly paper

himself some day.

He stands behind the guest-lecturer story, though, something he said was an obviously farcical look at racism. Brown, a sophomore, said the trouble the stories have brought him will linger. "I've still got another two years to live with this," he said.

Staffers responsible for ad sales mistakenly failed to inform advertisers of the April 2 edition's comic nature. Still, Schwarz said only one advertiser complained. The other advertisers, she said, were probably happy to be in a paper that got so much publicity.

During her time with the paper, Schwarz said the annual April Fool's Day issue has calmed down; though she said recent issues had malicious material in them, last year was comparatively bland. This year, she said she wanted to make it interesting.

Now two weeks since publishing her last paper, Schwarz said she just wants to wade through all the e-mails her now defunct, internationally known paper received, and get back to making newspapers.

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63% of women hope to meet husband in college

FROM PAGE 26

Of course not all students wish to remain single forever. Sixty-three percent of women said they hoped to meet their future husband in college.

Senior Brian Burger, 22, wanted to start his family early. He married upon graduating high school. Burger's wife is a minority in the Institute of American Value's study, as half of women report not wanting a serious relationship while attending college.

College relationships often pose difficulties for students, and the survey reports that many students are confused about what they want out of a relationship. Living away from home for the first time and reaching the legal age of the clubbing and bar scene present students with new situations and experiences.

"The reason why college relationships are so complicated is because in college you're learning and growing," junior Amanda Murphy, 20, said. "When you're in a relationship [and] you're both growing, sometimes you can grow apart."

Outside pressures don't

help. During last February — the month marked on the calendar by Valentine's Day — relationship woes accounted for a fourth of the one-on-one sessions sought by students at the UCF Counseling and Testing Center, said Robert Harman, the center's director. Most often students want to discuss depression or frustration caused by their relationship, he added.

Typically students come to discuss a depression or frustration caused by their relationship, Harman said.

Counselors work with students to discover what went wrong in the relationship. Harman says that questions asked in a session include, "What's going on and how did you get into that situation?" and "What part did you play in the relationship?"

The Counseling and Testing Center offers all of its relationship counseling and seminars free to students.

Harman encourages students to meet new people in college by joining organizations on campus or going out more. While it may not lead to a date, everyone can use another friend.

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42 Was too enthusiastic

46 Spike and Brenda

47 Pub order

48 Nappy leather

51 Wapiti

53 Passages with lively tempos

56 Thalia's sister

59 Metal mixture

60 Part of an e-mail address

61 Former nit

62 Attired

63 Manufactured

64 Exposures

65 Sharpen

66 Man or Dogs

67 Gather up

68 School near Windsor

69 Throat-clearing sound

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2 Lion, at times

3 Funny woman

4 "Pinafore"

5 Breakneck

6 Sports venue

7 Performance trial

8 Beanery sign

9 Costume jewelry

10 Leggy actress?

11 By mouth

12 Claudius' successor

13 "East of _"

21 Spanish sheep

24 Machine part

25 Ballplayer Guerrero

28 Sudden pain

30 Nonsense!

31 Set afire

32 Call off

34 "Vertigo" star

35 Daredevil Knievel

36 "The Plough and the Stars" playwright

37 Nocturnal raptor

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43 Dangerous flies

44 Change the distribution

45 Obvious toupee

49 Artful scribble

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52 Fertile loam

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56 Corsica's neighbor

57 Wander widely

58 Mystique

59 Heart follower

63 Hamm or Farrow

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04/28/03

See solutions, page 31

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Permanent P/T positions at Winter Park office. Mostly evening hours 5-9 pm. Occ. 9 am - 1 pm. About 16-20hrs/wk. Flexible scheduling. \$7 - \$7.50/hr to start. NEVER SALES/Research Only. Call Donna at 407-671-7143.

Full Time Cashier/Greeter Needed for Carwash. Please Apply @ location (Shammy Island on 50 across from Chili's) or call 407-207-1294. Must work weekends!

Female College / Grad Student
Need a place to live this summer? In exchange for room & board - FT child care for 12 year old girl. Must have car & driver's license, references. No drinking, drugs, smoker. Own furnished room. House w/ pool. Call 407-696-4596 : All calls returned after 8PM.

100 HELP WANTED

Company looking for student who has expertise in search engines, analysis, and placement. Off campus consulting project. Compensation neg. E-mail admin@dormkit.com.

Are you photogenic?
Cosmetic Company seeks females for print and promos.
No Experience Necessary!
Email: colorartistry@netzero.net

Great Summer Camp Jobs!
Girl Scout camp located in Orange Springs hiring counselors, lifeguards and equestrian staff for 8-week resident camp. Positions available from 5/27 to 7/28. Salary + meals and housing.
Call (800) 347-2688 or email kkeene@girlscouts-gateway.org. EOE.

ATTENTION CRAFT LOVERS:
Assemble Nifty Craft Products - FT/PT - Earn \$50 to \$300 per week. Call today start tomorrow. Se Habla Espanol. Call 813-681-7837 today!
8am - 6pm & Ask for Connie

200 FOR SALE

ROCKET FUEL COFFEE
High Caffeine Coffee!
Get the edge! THE coffee for Finals, Midterms, tests, reports. Z-COFFEE Corporation. To order:
WWW.Z-COFFEE.COM or
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For Sale: Dining Room Table w/ 4 Chairs, Sofa, Two Chairs, Two End Tables, Coffee Table, Queen Bed (Head Board, Mattress & Box Spring), Dresser w/ Mirror, Bed Stands Just \$700!
Corner Computer Desk w/ hutch & book shelf only \$150! Must pick up Monday May 5.
Call 407-671-2065

45-Gallon Flat-Back Hex-Front Salt Water Fish Tank. Includes Black wooden canopy & black stand. Also comes with wet-dry pump. Asking \$275/obo. Call Tom 954-993-3387

Matching Beige Love Seat and Couch. Excellent Condition. Will sell together or separate for \$100/obo. Office Desk and File Cabinet. \$50/obo. Call Kevin at 407-340-2384.

Must Sell!!! Living Room set. (Together or separate). Call Kristen at 407-341-3464 for info.

ALL SONY ENTERTAINMENT SALE

500 watt Dolby Digital Hometheatre w/warranty. Incl. 5 speakers and stands; Digital Remote Control; DVD Player. Original boxes, instructions and receipts. Will sell together or separate. Call Sam at 407-709-5098 for prices.

200 FOR SALE

TWO DIXIE CHICKS TICKETS
Excellent seats, bought before general public sale, May 3rd TD Waterhouse, lower level, \$65 ea no tktmaster fees. 407-677-0382

Living room set includes sleeper couch, full couch, coffee table, and end table. Good condition. \$300 negotiable. Call Jackie @ 407-461-6455.

Moving Sale!
Good furniture for cheap price.
Black leather sofa \$220, 2 beds \$150 each, 2 chests for \$20 each, coffee table w/ two end tables \$40 for all, small dining table w/ four chairs \$30 for all, brand new microwave \$35. Prices are negotiable. 407-737-9304.

MUST GO!! GREAT DEAL!!
Matching light wood bedroom set incl. full size headboard, armoire, large 6 drawer dresser w/mirror and computer desk. EVERYTHING for \$375/obo!
Awesome dining room set less than 1 yr. old, great cond.! Beautiful Bakeris rack, table and 4 chairs themed with black iron. All for just \$175/obo! Call Fallon @ 407-384-9814 or email Falaxi1@hotmail.com.

250 AUTOMOTIVE**!! DO NOT PAY DEALER RATES !!**

Attention all UCF Acura, Honda, Import and domestic owners! Need quality auto repair/maintenance, etc? Don't delay, call
THE AUTO GENERAL 407-399-7514.
ASE certified* and beats most independent shop rates!

2001 Town and Country Chrysler Van. Excellent cond./all electric w/alarm. Extended warranty-70,000 miles. CD/cassette/radio. \$13,500.
407-421-6265 or 407-359-9297.

1997 Saturn SC-1
Dark Blue coupe in Excellent Condition! Near Campus!
Auto, A/C, CC, Tilt, 66k
Only \$6,500! Call 407-366-4153

1993 Nissan 300zx -Pearl White, T-Tops, Auto, Leather, 6-disc cd, original owner & well maintained, must see to appreciate! 147k miles.
\$8900/obo 407-924-1508

HOT RIDE!!! '96 NISSAN MAXIMA.

\$8500 OBO. Enkei rims w/ new tires, amazing stereo system, Eibach performance springs, Euro tail lights, rear spoiler, tints, security system, 87,000 highway miles. Call 407-625-0006.

2001 Chrysler Sebring LXi
Great Condition, Only 21,000 miles
Satin White 2-door coupe, sunroof, leather, power everything, 6-cd changer, premium wheel. Only \$14,900/obo. Call 407-234-2759

'98 Ford Expedition XLT. 4DR, AM/FM Cassette/CD. Leather interior, pwr everything, cruise control, alloy rims and running sideboards. Front and Rear A/C. 75k. \$14,000. Call 407-380-9832.

300 FOR RENT

Room avail ASAP in 3/2 Home!
Less than 15 mins from UCF. Only \$400 + 1/3 util. Incl. cable, w/d, high speed internet. Must be non-smoker. Call 407-247-6152

Sublease in Northgate Lakes Apt. avail. asap. 4 bed/2 bath. All util. incl. \$300/mnth. Call Sarah at 850-543-3352 or e-mail Skloyd@aol.com.

Room avail. for Female in Northgate Lakes, across from UCF. Fully furn. 4bd/4bth, all util. incl. \$399/mo. 5/1/03 to 8/4/03 w/ option of renting for next year. Call Kristina @ 941-685-3457.

NEW HOMES FOR RENT
4bd/2bth new homes in UCF area for rent \$1095 to \$1295. Call 407-629-6330 or WWW.ORLREnt.com to view our rentals.
RE/MAX 200 Realty.

300 FOR RENT

NS wanted for room in 3bd/2bth NEW HOME. Only \$400 + 1/2 util. Only 5 mins from UCF in Regency Park. Pool, computer, Cable, phone, nice furniture. Call 407-207-6320

House for Rent
Beautiful Waterford lakes home. 4 bd/ 3ba with pool and 3 car garage. Available Immediately. \$1500/mo. Contact Ramon @321-377-5803.

• 1 & 2 bedroom floor plans
• Two Months Free Rent for Immediate Move-in!
• Summer Wait List Specials (June, July & August)
• Mention this ad and we'll waive your application fee

Heather Glen Apartments
407-657-0011

Waterford/UCF Area - Newer 3/2 or 4/2 homes over looking private wooded area. 2-car garage. All the upgrades with comm. pool! From \$1,290. Super nice! 407-833-0063.

Mature Male or Female Roommate
wanted to share 2/2 apartment in Waterford Lakes for summer term (June 1 - Aug 31). W/D in unit, pool. Only \$450/mo + 1/2 util.
Call Ann Marie 407-207-8941

Private bed and bath on 2nd floor of 3/2 home. Garage parking. No smoking. 5 min. from UCF. All util. & fastest internet incl. \$375/mnth. Female only. Call 407-977-6750.

Miss Living At Home?
Rent One!!
Huge 3 and 4 bd. homes near UCF. Call for details; 407-521-8248.
Durek Real Estate Investments.

ROOM AVAIL BY UCF. \$400 INCL. ALL UTIL. FURNISHED WITH BED. HOUSE HAS WASHER, DRYER, POOL TABLE, BIG SCREEN TV. ACCESS TO POOL AND VOLLEYBALL COURT. FEMALES ONLY. CALL 407-468-3161.

TWO ROOMS AVAIL. FOR SUBLEASE
4bd/4bth @ Pegasus Landing. Free UCF shuttle. Fully furnished. All util. incl. HUGE bed/bath with W/D. Cable + HBO. 3 pools and more. \$480 each room. Call Lauren @ 407-362-4922 and 321-277-7890.

Room for rent in 4bd/4ba apartment in Pegasus Landing. Available May-July. \$400/mnth obo. Call Andrew @ 407-362-3194.

2 rooms for rent in 4/2 house by Lake Howell HS, 15 min from UCF- \$475/month-inclds rent pwr wtr cbl phone DSL intrnt lawn serv. Avail 5/1/03. House furn, bdms not. Females only. NO PETS. Jennifer-(h) 407-677-4782 (c)407-923-1484

One bedroom avail. for the summer! \$385/mnth. University Town Houses. Furnished, free cable, and high speed internet.
Call Carl @ 407-375-7067.

Female roommates wanted. For 4/3 house close to UCF. Non-smoker and no pets. \$500/mo, utilities, internet & cable included. Call Angle 407-366-4035 or 954-494-8659

!!Great sublease available!!
Pegasus Pointe. ONLY \$365/mo OBO. Fully furnished! All utilities included. Call Ramsey Richmond 478-714-8049

Apartment for Rent At Pegasus Pointe. Only \$375/mo, inclu all util! Lease is May 1 to July 31. W/D, pool, gym, UCF shuttle, cable & DSL inclu. Call 407-926-5687

Summer Lease ASAP
The Gatherings Apts.
5 mins from UCF. Unfurnished. All util. incl. \$415/mnth. Call Tina 561-926-2020 or Tinabel7@aol.com

2 story HOUSE available now!
3 bd/2.5 bth. Located in Waterford Lakes. 10 mins. to UCF. Available May 15th. \$1200/mnth. \$600 deposit. Call Emi @ 407-970-3209.

300 FOR RENT

UF Summer Condo Rental!!
Countryside at the University- newest student condo in Gainesville. \$350 ea./mo (incl. basic util.). Nice pool-side 4bd/4ba unit. Furnished common areas. Close to campus with shuttle stop. Rooms available now thru Aug. 15th. Call Rob @ 407-729-5267.

Fully Furnished 1/1 Private Apartment (bed, bathroom, living/kitchenette) upstairs in Oviedo Home. Only \$800/mo inclu water, elec, trash. Please Call Linda @ 407-366-2650 or LBGtutor@yahoo.com

2 Great Units Available!
2/2, W/D, great location across from UCF. Only \$700/mo
Call 407-872-6277

325 HOMES

ROOMS FOR RENT IN HOME!
3 M/F wanted for HUGE 6BR/4BTH house in Waterford Lks East, fully furnished w/ empty rooms, hi-speed internet, walk-in closets, gated comm., on a lake, rent equal to an apt., Best bank for Buck at UCF!! call Tony @ 407-701-8669

Condo near UCF, at Hunter's Reserve. 2/2, vaulted ceilings, W/D, screened balcony, upper-end unit. \$95,000.
Please Call: 904-614-3120

350 ROOMMATES

M/F wanted for furnished BDRM in new 3 bdrm home on lake, gated comm, 6 mins from UCF, \$475/mo inclu util, n/s, no pets, sec sys, pool & tennis. Call 407-482-3202 or 239-461-5101 or 239-633-9400.

M looking for M/F roommate 15 min UCF/ 5 min Valencia \$350/mo + 1/2 util. Unfrmsd bdrm. 1yr lease. Jul. or Aug. move-in. Call Dave @ 321-235-8731 or E-mail @ radzo69@yahoo.com.

Room Avail. for M in 3/2 home behind UCF. Beg. of May to end of July. \$415/mnth. Call 407-492-4332 or 407-736-9709

Female Roommate Wanted in New 3/2 Home. 5-10 mins from UCF. Secur Sys, W/D, new safe neighborhood. Must be clean, N/S, no pets. Only \$450/mo. Call 407-432-2326

Roommates wanted to rent in 4bd/2ba, pool, cable modem, and cable t.v. Located 3 mi. from UCF through back roads. \$425 INCLUDES ALL!!! Contact Ken @ 407-658-7904.

Room Avail in NEW 3 BDRM APT only 1 min from UCF. Only \$375 + util. BBall/VBall, Pool, Gym. Priv Bath. Free Ethernet & Cable, 1 previous owner 321-765-1330 or 321-759-4836

M looking for a M roommate. 1 mile from UCF. \$400/mo. No deposit. Incl. EVERYTHING. Unfurnished. Just remodeled every room in house. Access to pool. Tony 407-484-6744.

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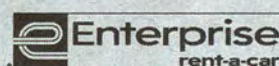
**It's Chaotic.
It's Slightly Insane.**

[And it's not at all where I thought I'd end up.
BUT IT IS ALL MINE.]

I always saw myself working in an office. But it turned out I like thinking on my feet, doing ten things at once. I like managing a balance sheet impacting a \$6 billion company. And I definitely like the potential to earn more money than my friends climbing the corporate ladder.

It's a little surprising how much I enjoy it. But Enterprise is a surprising place. They train me. Support me. Reward me when I perform. Yet they let me do it my way, and I've never learned so much in my life.

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Soup For You!**



**Remember the guy
on "Seinfeld" who never
gave soup to anybody?**

Well, he doesn't work at Crispers. We'll give you soup for FREE... just show us your valid UCF student ID card. Purchase any garden-fresh gourmet salad, or hearty stacked sandwich, and you'll receive a FREE 12-ounce cup of our incredible fresh-made soup. There are a dozen kinds to choose from!

**If you have a current UCF student card,
there's FREE SOUP for you!**

Free soup with main dish purchase and UCF student card offer good
April 24 - May 7. Limit one per customer per visit, please.

**FORGET THE
FATBURGER**

Crispers has been a central Florida sensation for over 14 years, now in Orlando with new locations opening all the time. Know why folks like us so much? Because we're the delicious, quick alternative to fast food. All our gourmet salads, tempting soups, and stacked sandwiches (on all kinds of special breads) are made fresh every single day.

And our desserts are absolutely outrageous...creamy cheesecakes, rich layer cakes, cookies, and brownies. Be sure to try a sundae or milkshake made with delicious Publix Premium ice cream.

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SUN. 11 AM - 8 PM

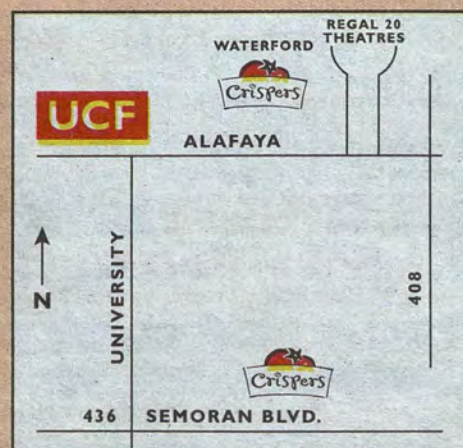
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FRI. SAT. 10:30 AM - 10 PM
SUN. 11 AM - 8 PM

WE'RE RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER!

Crispers is now open at 436 & University and Alafya Trail, which means delicious food is right around the corner...and it's fast! Plus, we're opening more new locations all the time. Eat in...take out...whatever. Just visit us today, and you can tell your Mom you're eating right!



Don Pablos

Presents

Cinco De Mayo

OUTDOOR BLOCK PARTY

MONDAY MAY 5TH, 2003

\$2.00 Coronas all night!

FREE BEER FROM 8-10:30!

\$1.00 Tequila Shots all night!

LIVE DJ'S AND MUSIC ALL NIGHT

TONS OF CASH AND PRIZES

THIS IS GOING TO BE THE BIGGEST PARTY OF THE YEAR!

THIS EVENT TAKES PLACE AT THE UNIVERSITY LOCATION

LOOK FOR THE SPOTLIGHTS!

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